# MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

6 JANUARY 1983

## Israeli-Lebanese-U.S. Talks

Israeli Rejection of Draper Proposal -- Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir flatly rejected the proposal of Morris Draper, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, to bypass the impasse over the normalization issue, IDF radio reported. Draper's suggestion spoke of an exchange of letters between the parties but did not include normalization as part of the proposed agenda, the radio added. The steering committee for the negotiations with Lebanon endorsed Shamir's view and the Israeli representative at the forthcoming talks in Qiryat Shemona will insist that the principle of normalization be included as a separate issue on the agenda of the talks, Jerusalem radio reported.

Explaining Israel's position in an interview with Jerusalem television, Foreign Minister Shamir called on the United States to influence Lebanon to change its position and meet Israel halfway. Israeli political circles cited by IDF radio said earlier that the content of Draper's message indicates that Lebanon is not a serious partner in the negotiations.

Lebanese Comment -- Noting that Morris Draper's proposal to the Israelis was designed to ensure that the meeting in Qiryat Shemona does not revolve around the previous discussions in Khaldah, Beirut radio said Lebanese officials have made preparations to continue the talks "if it should appear that the Israeli side is determined to arrive at results." Phalangist Party leader Pierre al-Jumayyil described the talks as extremely important, particularly because "there are no slanders and vituperations," Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

## Lebanon: Tripoli Situation

The northern coordination committee has adopted a decision providing for a total cease-fire in Tripoli, the withdrawal of gunmen, and the removal of armed manifestations, former Prime Minister Rashid Karami announced in a statement reported by Beirut radio. Joint forces under the committee's command as well as Lebanese internal security forces will supervise the cease-fire and maintain security in the city, he said. The former prime minister, who chaired the committee meeting in Tripoli after returning from talks in Damascus with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, also noted that a delegation of senior Syrian officers had arrived in Tripoli to assist in restoring order and removing both gunmen and weapons, according to another Beirut radio report. Before leaving Damascus, Karami declared that Syria has a basic role to play in Tripoli and that the Syrian leader's decision to send a military committee to Tripoli was "the stand we hoped for," Damascus radio reported. Al-Asad had stressed that Syria does not support one faction in Tripoli against another, Karami disclosed.

Despite Karami's cease-fire announcement, clashes continued throughout the afternoon though the gunfire eased in the evening, according to Beirut radio. The radio said about 50 people were killed 4-5 January.

## Israeli-Syrian Relations

Damascus sources cited by the Beirut paper ASH-SHARQ confirmed that Syria has acquired SAM-5's, disclosing that Syria made repeated requests for the missiles in order to "reestablish the balance" between Syrian and Israeli forces, AFP reported. ASH-SHARQ, which AFP said has close ties with the Syrian Government, contended that the Israeli announcement about the bases was a prelude to an attack on Syrian forces.

Israel should take all necessary precautions against the SAM-5's but should otherwise "keep cool" and continue as normal, Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon said in an interview with Jerusalem television. He warned the Syrians that there is no point in another military move.

The New York Hebrew weekly YISRAEL SHELANU reported that Sharon recently met with the Syrian chief of staff in New York for a discussion of ways to prevent the Lebanese situation from escalating into a Middle East war, according to THE JERUSALEM POST.

## Pym's Middle East Tour

The visit of Fracis Pym, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, to visit Gulf states has been "deferred," the Foreign Office announced in the statement cited by the London Press Association. While stressing that Qatar, the UAE, and Oman have not withdrawn their invitations, the statement did not mention Saudi Arabia, which was unwilling to meet with Pym following Britain's refusal to officially welcome the PLO representative on the Fes summit committee, LPA noted. Meanwhile, the Egyptian ambassador to Britain declared that the Fes committee is expected to visit Britain in February as a result of an "acceptable solution" reached during a British delegation's talks in Morocco with King Hassan II, according to MENA. However, the Egyptian envoy said that Britain would not meet the PLO representative at ministerial level, MENA added.

## Iraq

New Weapons -- Iraq's Air Force and Navy have acquired "sophisticated" new weapons, according to statements issued by the Air Force and Navy commanders and cited by INA. The Navy commander's statement asserted that the new naval units would enable continued attacks against Iranian naval targets, INA reported.

Mediation -- Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf asserted that although Iraq currently has no choice other than war, the country welcomes the "imminent mediation" as it welcomed all previous mediation efforts. the Riyadh daily AL-JAZIRAH reported.

## Iran

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni issued an "important" decree, broadcast by Tehran radio, instructing the minister of Islamic guidance to collect and prohibit further publication of certain "abominable" pamphlets which deviate from Islamic law. The pamphlets were used for the ideological certification of personnel. All employee selection groups throughout the country are to be disbanded and reorganized and new pamphlets are to be written. Commenting on the decree, Prime Minister Mir-Hosevn Musavi noted that while individuals will continue to be scrutinized, the scrutiny will be done in a uniform way based on Islamic principles, Tehran radio reported.

FBIS

# DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

## *Middle East and Africa*

*Vol V No 004* *6 January 1983*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW 1

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

'Arafat on Government-in-Exile, Letter to Reagan [Cairo] A 1
Boucetta: Arab Committee To Visit UK Early Feb [MAP] A 1
Mediation Between Syria, PLO Reportedly Fails [Jidda AL-MADINAH 4 Jan] A 1
Reports of Talks With Israel on Prisoners Denied [MAP] A 2

ARABIAN PENINSULA

SAUDI ARABIA

Fahd Calls on Lebanese To Halt Fighting C 1
Briefs: Lebanese Imports Banned C 1

PDRY

YSP Central Committee Session Held 5 Jan C 1
Meeting Continues C 2

EGYPT

Mubarak, Minister View U.S., UK, Canada Visits D 1
Sudanese Vice President Holds Talks in Cairo D 2
Report on Arrival D 2
Meets With Ghali D 2
Meets With Mubarak D 2
Meets With Muhyi ad-Din D 3
Comments on Integration D 3
Delegation Leaves on Tour of East Africa 5 Jan D 4
Official Welcomes Iraq's Call To Restore Ties D 4

IRAQ

Air Force Gets 'Very Sophisticated' Weapons E 1
Navy Obtains 'Sophisticated Naval Units' E 1
Vice President Speaks on War, Mediation [Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH 28 Dec] E 1

JORDAN

Husayn Returns 5 Jan Following 5-Week Tour F 1
Badran Briefs Cabinet on Husayn's U.S. Talks F 1
Badran Receives Cable From USSR Chairman F 1

LEBANON

President, Al-Wazzan Discuss Talks With Israel G 1
Cabinet Discusses Talks With Israel 5 Jan G 1
Al-Jumayyil Chairs Meeting of Negotiating Team G 2
Sham'un, Pierre al-Jumayyil on Tripoli, Talks G 2
Press Comments on U.S. Role in Negotiations G 3
Front Calls for Syrian Withdrawal From Tripoli G 3
Casualties in Tripoli; Karami Returns From Syria G
Karami Announces Agreement on Cease-Fire G
More on Cease-Fire G 5
Cease-Fire Not Implemented G 5
Army Carries Out Searches in Beirut Suburb G 6
Israelis Detaining Arab Leaders in South G 6
[Voice of Arab Lebanon]

SYRIA

Lebanese Paper on Syrian Acquisition of SAM-5's [AFP] H 1
Lebanon's Karami Leaves for Tripoli With Syrians H 1
Defense Minister Talas Comments on Lebanon H 2
[London AL-MAJALLAH 1-7 Jan]
Al-Asad Receives Lebanon's Walid Junblatt 5 Jan H 7

ISRAEL

Levi Called To Review Talks With Lebanon I 1
Draper Reportedly Unsuccessful With Lebanese I 1
Draper Proposal Rejected I 1
Further Details I 1
Shamir Comments on Negotiations With Lebanon I 2
Normalization Stance I 3
Reagan Plan, West Bank I 3
Eytan Says No West Bank for Peace Trade I 4
[THE JERUSALEM POST 6 Jan]
Sharon, Syrian Chief of Staff Reportedly Meet I 4
[THE JERUSALEM POST 6 Jan]
Sharon Interview on Political, Military Issues I 5
Military Sources on Soviet Missiles, U.S. Angle I 14
Israeli-PLO Talks on POW's Continue in Paris I 14
[DAVAR 5 Jan]
Menahem Begin To Visit U.S. Middle February I 14
[DAVAR 5 Jan]

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Niger's Kountche in Algiers, Signs Border Accord Q 1
[Niamey]
Lebanon's Qulaylat, Delegation Arrive 5 January Q 1
[Voice of Arab Lebanon]

LIBYA

Paper Notes Greek Criticism of U.S. Air Base Q 1
[London AL-ZAHAF AL-AKHDAR 24 Dec]

MOROCCO

Arab, Jerusalem Committees To Meet 20 Jan [SPA] Q 3

SUDAN

Interior Minister on Palestinians, Economy [London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 3 Jan] Q 3
Numayri Invited to Delhi Nonaligned Summit Q 5

TUNISIA

Foreign Minister Gives Bourguiba New Year Speech Q 5

WEST AFRICA

BENIN

President Kerekou's New Year Speech 4 Jan T 1

GUINEA

Sekou Toure's End of Year Speech 31 Dec T 2

MALI

President Traore's New Year Message to Nation T 6

NIGERIA

President Shagari's New Year Address to Nation T 7

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

MPLA, UNITA Reportedly To Hold Talks in February [Lisbon] U 1
UNITA Steps Up Raids, Proposes Direct Talks [AFP] U 1
MPLA Members Reportedly Arrested, Suspended [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL 6 Jan] U 1
New Designation for MPLA-Labor Party Department U 2

MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique, Zimbabwean Military Leaders Meet U 2
Zimbabwe Army Chief Leaves U 3

ZAMBIA

PRC's Zhao Ziyang Arrives in Lusaka 5 Jan [AFP] U 3

'ARAFAT ON GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE, LETTER TO REAGAN

NC051612 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat today said that he is prepared to form a Palestinian government-in-exile if the United States recognizes the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

In an interview with the Lebanese magazine AL-HAWADITH published in Lebanon, 'Arafat pointed out that last month he sent a letter to U.S. President Reagan requesting that he confirm [at-ta'kid] the right of the Palestinian people. However, 'Arafat said that holding a meeting between him and President Reagan would not contribute toward ending the Arab-Israeli dispute.

On Egyptian-Israeli [as heard] relations, 'Arafat said that he regards President Husni Mubarak as his friend. He also affirmed his firm relationship with the Egyptian people.

BOUCETTA: ARAB COMMITTEE TO VISIT UK EARLY FEB

LD060952 Rabat MAP in English 0900 GMT 6 Jan 83

[Text] Riyadh, 6 January -- M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of state for foreign affairs, has announced that the seven-member Arab committee set up by the Arab summit in Fes will visit London at the beginning of February with its full complement following the British Government's agreement to receive it.

Boucetta added in a statement published by AR-RIYAD that agreement has been reached on the visit by the delegation with its full complement, including the PLO representative, a visit which was scheduled for December 1982. The Moroccan minister explained that the decision was reached following intensive talks between the Moroccan and British Governments and as a result of Arab pressure on Britain. Boucetta paid a short visit to Riyadh the day before yesterday and delivered a message from His Majesty King Hassan II to His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, king of Saudi Arabia.

MEDIATION BETWEEN SYRIA, PLO REPORTEDLY FAILS

GF051500 Jidda AL-MADINAH in Arabic 4 Jan 83 p 1

[Text] Beirut -- Informed Arab sources have told AL-MADINAH that the efforts PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad made several days ago in order to reconcile the viewpoints of Syria and the Palestinian Resistance have not achieved the results he had been expecting.

The sources stressed that Damascus expressed a tough stand on the mediation effort of 'Ali Nasir, considering that any mention of a Syrian-Palestinian rapprochement will remain within the framework of attempts and those who make them are to be thanked. However, these efforts will not produce any results so long as what takes place does not indicate nor bear any positive indication that it contributes to the achievement of this rapprochement and to the settlement of disputes.

The sources explained that 'Ali Nasir Muhammad stopped his efforts in this regard after receiving an official decision from the Syrian officials that the dimensions of the Jordanian-Palestinian rapprochement, which are increasing daily, cannot be understood and that they are taking place at the expense of the Syrian-Palestinian relations.

The Arab sources expect that the Syrian campaign against Jordan and against the Palestinian-Jordanian rapprochement will become more violent in the near future. They also expect that Damascus will sponsor certain Palestinian steps by its allies in the Palestinian organizations in order to hinder this rapprochement and create obstacles for it.

REPORTS OF TALKS WITH ISRAEL ON PRISONERS DENIED

LD041424 Rabat MAP in English 1203 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Nicosia, Jan 4 (MAP) -- The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) has not started negotiations with the Zionist state on the Israeli prisoners captured in Lebanon by PLO forces, announced the Palestinian News Agency "WAFA", quoting Mr Khalil al-Wazir, known as Abu Jihad, assistant commander of the PLO forces.

The agency added that the Palestinians' official has denied "all information alleging that the Palestinian Revolution had started negotiations with the Zionist enemy on the release of eight Israeli prisoners".

## SAUDI ARABIA

### FAHD CALLS ON LEBANESE TO HALT FIGHTING

LD051828 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1645 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] Riyadh, 5 Jan (SPA) -- His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has called on the Lebanese people to stop fighting and killing each other and to use all their good means to achieve cordial understanding and to spread love among their sons in order to remove the excuse for the enemy lying in wait for them and for all the Arabs. In an interview with SPA on the current events in Lebanon, his majesty called on the Lebanese people with their groups and sects to direct their efforts toward achieving the unity and independence of sister Lebanon in order to become free, strong, and a full member of the Arab nation once again.

His majesty said: I am addressing the fraternal Lebanese people to confirm to them that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia shall continue to direct all its efforts to preserving the stability of sister Lebanon, backing its independence and confirming its national reconciliation so that it may achieve the security, stability, and tranquillity it wants.

His Majesty King Fahd expressed deep pain at what has been happening in Lebanon, at the fighting and killing. His majesty confirmed that such action gives the enemy the chance to interfere more and more and to close its fist on Lebanese land and its stranglehold on the fraternal Lebanese people. He said: We know the fraternal Lebanese people's eagerness to maintain their unity and independence. We know their ability to overcome difficulties and to deal with their affairs and the affairs of their homeland with wisdom, fraternity, and with strengthening trust in the souls of their sons. The fraternal people are striving with all their might to prevent bloodshed among their sons and are devoting their strength to achieving reunion and to consolidating the links and ties of love and fraternity among themselves in order to maintain a strong and united fraternal Lebanon.

His majesty added: I call on the Lebanese people, who are dear to the Arab nation, to end this fighting, which can only damage them, and to use all their good means to achieve cordial understanding and spread love among their sons in order to remove the excuse for the enemy lying in wait for them and for all the Arabs. I call on the Lebanese people to direct all their efforts toward returning sister Lebanon to unity and independence in order to become free, strong, and an active member of the Arab nation once again.

## BRIEFS

LEBANESE IMPORTS BANNED -- Manama -- The Saudi Government has banned imports from Lebanon as a consequence of Israel's invasion of that country, according to an announcement in Riyadh yesterday. The reason for this move is that apparently goods of israeli origin have been finding their way into Saudi Arabia via Lebanon. [Text] [Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 31 Dec 82 p 4 GF]

## PDRY

### YSP CENTRAL COMMITTEE SESSION HELD 5 JAN

GF051730 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] The YSP Central Committee began its eighth regular session this morning under the chairmanship of Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers.

In this session, the YSP Central Committee will discuss a number of party, political, economic, and ideological issues within the framework of evaluating the activity of the party leadership organizations during 1982 and specifying the major directions of the new tasks facing our party and people during 1983.

At the beginning of the first meeting, the YSP members and alternate members stood for one minute to mourn the victims of the earthquake that hit Dhamar Province in the northern part of the country and caused losses in lives and property for thousands of the sons of our people there.

After that, the Central Committee discussed a political report presented by the Political Bureau. In light of this report, it exchanged views on political developments in the regional, Arab, and international arenas and the activity of the Political Bureau, the Central Committee's Secretariat, and the government regarding these developments. The Central Committee will hold the second meeting of its eighth regular session this evening. It will discuss a number of other issues included in its agenda.

Meeting Continues

CF051936 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] The YSP Central Committee held the second meeting of its eighth regular session this evening under the chairmanship of Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers.

In its evening meeting, the Central Committee discussed a number of party issues concerning the activity of the supreme party leadership during the past year and means of strengthening and developing the internal life of the party organizations in the provinces and the armed forces. The Central Committee expressed satisfaction over the standard at which the plans of the party organization were executed during 1982. As a result of that, many tasks in connection with the party, political, economic, and ideological work, which is a part of the continuous revolutionary evolution and which is aimed at completing the tasks of the national and democratic and socialist revolution, were carried out.

The Central Committee also approved the work plans of the supreme party organizations for 1983 and stressed the necessity of giving more care and attention to the followup of their execution by the concerned organs and facilitating any difficulties that may hinder their execution.

The YSP Central Committee began its eighth regular session this morning.

MUBARAK, MINISTER VIEW U.S., UK, CANADA VISITS

NC051339 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0930 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Cairo, 5 Jan (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak met with Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id this morning.

The meeting at Al-'Urubah Palace focused on various economic matters.

In a statement following the meeting, Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id declared that President Mubarak's coming visit to the United States, Canada, and Britain will concentrate on increasing economic cooperation between Egypt and these countries and making U.S. aid more flexible with the aim of accelerating the implementation of substantial and proposed projects, foremost of which are the sewage and water projects.

Dr as-Sa'id said his meeting with the president touched upon various economic matters in preparation for holding a meeting of the ministers of economy, finance, investment, and planning with the prime minister to discuss and assess the plan.

On President Mubarak's visit to the United States and the economic topics that will be discussed there, Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id said President Mubarak's talks will focus on making U.S. aid more flexible so as to allocate more to sectors than to projects, with better conditions, especially since there are important and proposed projects, the foremost of which are the sewage projects which require large sums.

He pointed out that these topics were discussed during the U.S. aid program chairman's recent visit to Egypt, and that he showed understanding, particularly of the request to use the arrear sums, which have not been used in the past years and which amount to more than 2 billion dollars, and the possibility of using part of it to finance sewage projects in particular.

Dr as-Sa'id said we hope that a part of the U.S. aid can be granted in a monetary form in a way that would allow the Egyptian Government freedom to rapidly implement projects in vital fields.

He pointed out that these fields are represented in the implementation of projects related to public utilities which the Egyptian Government is keen on implementing.

On the president's visit to Canada and the economic topics that may be discussed there, the minister of economy said it is the first visit by an Egyptian president to Canada and pointed out that Canada grants aid to Egypt and that there is a possibility of increasing this aid as well as the possibility of increasing the trade volume between both countries.

The minister of economy added that the president's visit to Canada is regarded as a good opportunity to consolidate relations between the two countries and that there are a number of specific projects that will be submitted to the Canadian side and will be subject to considerable discussion, particularly since a number of economic-sector ministers will accompany the president. In this respect, he pointed out that there are projects in which the Canadian side cooperates with Egypt -- namely, electricity, public utilities, sewage, and water. They are projects Egypt intends to finish quickly.

In reply to a question on the date of the president's visit to the PRC, Dr Mustafa as-Sa'id said it is planned that a group of experts will leave for the PRC this month to negotiate the renewal of the trade and payment treaty.

He added that the visit of the economic-sector ministers to China will probably be in April to coincide with the president's visit to the PRC and Japan.

SUDANESE VICE PRESIDENT HOLDS TALKS IN CAIRO

Report on Arrival

NC041032 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0930 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Cairo, 4 Jan (MENA) -- Sudanese Vice President Joseph Lagu arrived in Cairo this morning leading a Sudanese delegation on an 8-day state visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt at the invitation of Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense and War Production Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah.

The Sudanese guest was met at the airport by Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Ha' Abu Ghazalah, Cairo Governor Sa'd Ma'mun, Minister of State for Reconstruction, Housing and Land Reclamation Engineer Hasaballah al-Kafrawi, Sudanese Ambassador in Cairo Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman Sulayman, and members of the Sudanese Embassy.

Meets With Ghali

NC042023 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali this evening met with Sudanese Vice President Joseph Lagu. During the meeting, they focused on bilateral coordination in keeping with the integration charter. After the meeting, Lagu said that they discussed topics pertinent to integration between Egypt and Sudan in various spheres.

In a statement to journalists, Lagu said that he extended an invitation to Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense, to attend the Sudanese May revolution celebrations and visit southern Sudan.

Meets With Mubarak

NC051332 Cairo MENA in English 1150 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] Cairo, Jan 5 (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak received today Sudanese Vice President Joseph Lagu and his accompanying delegation.

The delegation includes 'Abdallah Jadallah, minister of housing in the northern region, Dr. at-Taj Fadlallah, minister of agriculture in Kurdifan region, the minister of natural resources at the southern region, and Samuel Aru, member of the Nile Valley Parliament. The meeting was attended by Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy premier and minister of defence and military production, and 'Abd ar-Rahman Salman, Sudanese ambassador here.

President Mubarak said following the meeting that he asked Lagu to convey a verbal message to the Sudanese president. President Mubarak said the visit of the Sudanese delegation was successful and helped to promote cooperation between the two countries.

President Mubarak added the Nile Valley Parliament will be formed later this month as the meeting scheduled to be held in mid January was postponed to February.

Joseph Lagu hoped that President Mubarak and President Numayri will attend the official inauguration of Jonjli canal project which demonstrates cooperation and integration between the Nile Valley peoples.

On problems facing the south, Lagu said there are a lot of economic problems and noted that he asked for Egyptian contribution to alleviate these problems.

The security of the Sudan i the responsibility o the Nile Valley as a whole, Lagu said.

Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah said the visit of the Sudanese vice president falls within the framework of close cooperation between the two peoples.

On prospects of cooperation in the military fields Abu Ghazalah said the Sudanese have asked for the Egyptian Armed Forces contribution to technical works in the Sudan and that it was agreed to train one hundred Sudanese on technical military works.

Studies are also underway for building a bridge of Subat River in the Sudan and an Egyptian delegation was despatched to discuss execution of the project.

Abu Ghazalah noted he might visit the Sudan on May 25.

Meets With Muhyi ad-Din

NC052122 Cairo MENA in English 1950 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] Cairo, Jan 5 (MENA) - Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din conferred today with visiting Sudanese Vice President Joseph Lagu and the delegation accompanying him on means of ensuring promotion of integration projects betwen the two countries in the different domains.

Comments on Integration

NC041230 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1110 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Cairo, 4 Jan (MENA) -- Sudanese Vice President Mr Joseph Lagu has affirmed that developing the military standard of the Sudanese Armed Forces is important to Egypt. The Sudanese vice president emphasized the necessity of military cooperation between Egypt and Sudan in both war and peace.

The Sudanese vice president said that he is very happy to be visiting Cairo because his visit comes after the integration treaty between both countries was signed. He said: We think it is important that the peoples of Egypt and Sudan hold contacts. He affirmed that this is the main reason for his visit as contacts between the two countries should be continuous.

He said that Egypt is an advanced country while south Sudan is one of the most underdeveloped areas in the Nile Valley. Therefore, cooperation between Egypt and Sudan is aimed primarily at raising the standard of living in this area.

The Sudanese vice president, who arrived in Cairo today and who was officially received at Cairo airport, is due to meet tomorrow night with Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din.

The Sudanese guest's itinerary includes a visit to the 3d Field Army, where he will visit the Suez Canal area and the 'Uyun Musa area in Sinai. The Sudanese guest will also visit the cities of Alexandria, Luxor, Aswan, and Abu Sunbul and he will pay a visit to the Saqr and Qadir armament industry factories which are affiliated with the Arab organization for industrialization.

DELEGATION LEAVES ON TOUR OF EAST AFRICA 5 JAN

NC052050 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] An Egyptian delegation headed by Assistant Foreign Minister Ambassador 'Imran ash-Shafi'i left Cairo this evening on the first leg of a tour of East African countries. During the tour the delegation will visit Kenya, Ethiopia, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Mozambique. It will hold talks with officials in these countries on the problems facing the OAU, on the developments in the Middle East situation and on bolstering Egyptian-African relations.

OFFICIAL WELCOMES 'IRAQ'S CALL TO RESTORE TIES

NC301447 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1400 GMT 30 Dec 82

[Text] Cairo, 30 Dec (MENA) -- An Egyptian Foreign Ministry official spokesman has welcomed the statement Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz made to the Cairo newspaper AL-AHRAM the day before yesterday. In a statement today, the spokesman said the Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister would welcome Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz or any senior Iraqi official in Cairo, which has always opened and will continue to open its arms to Arab brothers.

It is worth noting that Tariq 'Aziz made a statement to AL-AHRAM in which he expressed his readiness to meet with Kamal Hasan 'Ali to hold a direct dialogue on the restoration of relations with Egypt. At the same time, the official spokesman commented on the interview that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat gave to the Cairo weekly AL-MUSAWWAR published today. He said Egypt welcomes any sincere step to strengthen the Arab world's capabilities in its peaceful struggle to achieve the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

The spokesman said Egypt would welcome the Palestinian leader in Cairo, which had earlier embraced the Palestinian struggle and its leadership for many years. Cairo is continuing its limitless support for the fraternal Palestinian people's cause, he added.

AIR FORCE GETS 'VERY SOPHISTICATED' WEAPONS

JN051108 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1000 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Jan (INA) -- The commander of the Iraqi Air Force and Air defense has announced that the Iraqi Air Force has formed new units and formations and has obtained very sophisticated weapons.

In a press statement published here today, he said that this modernization of weapons was accompanied by development in both theoretical and practical training necessary for the required tasks of these weapons. He stressed that the foreign military aid extended to the Iranian regime will not influence the balance of power between the Iranian Air Force and the Iraqi Air Force and air defense.

He added that Iraqi pilots have, since the first months of the war, managed to paralyze the Iranian Air Force, participate in destroying the enemy units and supply lines, and hit strategic ports deep inside Iran. He pointed out that the Iraqi Air Force carried out successful operations in coordination with other army corps. It also supported the ground and naval units and supplied them with an air cover which prevented the intervention of Iranian aircraft.

NAVY OBTAINS 'SOPHISTICATED NAVAL UNITS'

JN051134 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1005 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Jan (INA) -- The commander of the Iraqi Navy and coastal defense force has said that the Iraqi Navy has been supplied with sophisticated naval units. He stressed in a press statement here today that these new naval units have reinforced Iraq's naval and combat capabilities and helped prepare future plans to develop this force. He added that soon the Iraqi Navy will possess some of the world's most modern naval units and thus become an effective force in the region, capable of carrying out its pan-Arab duty in defending Arab waters.

He said that since the first days of the war the Iraqi Navy has succeeded in cutting off the Iranian navigation lines north of the Arab Gulf. These lines were used by the Iranian regime to supply its army with equipment and weapons. He indicated that the Iranian regime has occasionally and stupidly tried to send naval convoys to the Gulf zone, but the Iraqi Navy always took them by surprise, inflicting heavy losses.

The navy commander stressed that the Iraqi Navy will not only defend the Iraqi coasts but will also continue to attack the Iranian naval targets in the Arab Gulf.

VICE PRESIDENT SPEAKS ON WAR, MEDIATION

PM051441 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 28 Dec 82 pp 1, 30

['Abd ar-Rahman Idris report: "Iraqi Vice President Tells AL-JAZIRAH: It Is Iraq's Policy To Respond to Every Mediation Aimed at Stopping the War"]

[Excerpts] Against the background of renewed efforts by the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] to end the Iraqi-Iranian war with attempts this week to formulate an initiative to be sponsored again by the Good Offices Committee, and while the committee's old proposals are still at the disposal of the two warring parties, well-informed sources have stated that the committee is now close to defining the principles and conditions that would ensure Iraqi and Iranian acceptance of the new Islamic move to end the Gulf war.

In an exclusive statement to AL-JAZIRAH, Iraqi Vice President and Revolution Command Council member Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf said that Iraq has no choice at present other than war and repulsing aggression, and that Iraq's duty is to mobilize all resources and energies to confront and defeat aggression. God willing, he said, we will continue our defensive war and our steadfastness.

On the new mediation, the Iraqi vice president said that, since the aggression began, it has been Iraq's policy to respond to all mediation efforts. He added: Iraq responded to the Good Offices Committee's mediation but Iran rejected it. Iran has also rejected to new proposals submitted recently by the committee to Iraq and Iran.

The Iraqi vice president said that his country welcomes the imminent mediation as it welcomed all previous mediation.

Referring to the role the two superpowers could play to end the Gulf War, Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf said that during their recent meeting in New York, the U.S. secretary of state and the Soviet foreign minister differed on every issue but agreed that the Iraqi-Iranian war must be ended. He added: However, no serious action followed because the superpowers have their own strategies and interests.

Asked by AL-JAZIRAH to what extent the Fes conference resolutions committing the Arab states to support Iraq by all means have been effectively implemented and what results have been achieved, the Iraqi vice president replied: What was decided at the Fes conference was an honoring of a pan-Arab commitment to an agreement signed by the Arab states to be applied when an Arab state is subjected to a foreign aggression.

The commitment was that all these Arab states would support the state aggressed upon militarily, economically and in every other way against any aggression. Aggression has occurred. It was committed by the Iranian Army. The Iranian officials have frequently declared that they want to reach Baghdad. They penetrated some positions. Their armies are still present in one position in Iraq, albeit a small position. That position is in Arab territory.

We have clearly demonstrated that we have no ambitions in Iranian territory and that we do not want to humiliate the Iranian Army or interfere in the affairs of another state. It is common knowledge that all the Iraqi good-will gestures have met with clear Iranian intransigence. We therefore believe that it is the duty of the Arab states to do what is necessary to implement the agreement.

HUSAYN RETURNS 5 JAN FOLLOWONG 5-WEEK TOUR

JN051707 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn returned to Amman this evening following a 5-week tour during which he headed the Arab seven-member committee, which was formed by the Fes summit, on visits to the USSR and the PRC, stopping over in Pakistan. His majesty also paid an official visit to the PRC, working visits to Japan and the United States and a private visit to Austria. His majesty's talks with the leaders of the countries he visited centered on explaining the principles of Arab moves to achieve a just and durable peace in the Middle East based on justice and right and Jordan's continuation of its pan-Arab role in the international arena to regain the occupied Arab land and to affirm the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

Her Majesty Queen Nur, who accompanied his majesty on a private visit to Austria, and His Highness Prince 'Abdallah also returned with his majesty. Their majesties were received at Amman airport by Crown Prince Hasan, members of the Hashemite family, Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Senate president, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, National Consultative Council speaker, the court minister, the chief chamberlain, commander in chief of the armed forces, the ministers, several military and civilian officials and the ambassadors of the USSR, PRC, Pakistan, the United States and Austria.

BADRAN BRIEFS CABINET ON HUSAYN'S U.S. TALKS

JN051658 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] The cabinet met this afternoon under Prime Minister Mudar Badran. The prime minister submitted a comprehensive report on the talks which His Majesty King Husayn and his accompanying delegation held with U.S. President Reagan and senior U.S. officials during their recent visit to Washington. The report also touched on the results of these talks, which centered on bilateral relations between Jordan and the United States, and the proposed peace plans to solve the Palestinian issue and the Middle East crisis.

BADRAN RECEIVES CABLE FROM USSR CHAIRMAN

JN021456 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1440 GMT 2 Jan 83

[Text] Amman, 2 Jan (PETRA) -- Prime Minister Mudar Badran has received a thank you cable from the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers in reply to Badran's congratulatory cable on the 60th anniversary of the October Revolution. In his cable, the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers wished the Jordanian people continued prosperity and success.

PRESIDENT, AL-WAZZAN DISCUSS TALKS WITH ISRAEL

NC051300 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] U.S. envoy Ambassador Morris Draper today conveyed to Israeli Foreign Minister Shimar the U.S. compromise and the Lebanese stance on it so that the meeting in Qiryat Shemona tomorrow, Thursday, does not revolve around discussions in Khaldah. Hoping that Washington thus paved the way for Ambassador Draper, through contacts away from the limelight, the officials have made the preparations with the Lebanese side to the negotiations for continuing the meeting if it should appear that the Israeli side is determined to arrive at results.

Within this framework, President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil held a meeting with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan to discuss current subjects, particularly those relating to the meeting in Qiryat Shemona tomorrow.

It is known that the government -- after being assured of the solidity of the internal Lebanese stand and the unity of voice being consolidated daily -- will send its parliamentary missions to the Arab states to acquaint the Arab capitals with Lebanon's aspirations at this phase [so as to ensure] understanding and support of its stance while seeking to restore sovereignty over its soil.

Although several Arab states have shown, and are showing, understanding of the situation and have declared their readiness to support Lebanon and the necessity of not leaving Lebanon alone, it is important that all this be translated into facts. Among the desired objectives in sending the parliamentary missions to the Arab states is that of reflecting the unity of all Lebanese factions on the one hand and on the other hand to acquaint the Arab capitals with the real Lebanese stand and what Lebanon faces as well as what it requires from the Arab capitals in the present phase.

CABINET DISCUSSES TALKS WITH ISRAEL 5 JAN

NC051930 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Excerpts] The Cabinet has reviewed the atmosphere of the current negotiations on the withdrawals from Lebanon in light of the meetings which the delegations to the negotiations are holding.

President Amin al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister al-Wazzan expressed their hope that the course of the negotiations will progress toward speeding up the withdrawals.

The Cabinet held its session at 1800 tonight under the chairmanship of President Amin al-Jumayyil and in the presence of Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and the ministers.

Following the session, which ended at 1930, Information Minister Roger Shaykhani made the following official statement:

The Cabinet discussed the general conditions in the country and acquainted itself with the atmosphere of the current negotiations on the withdrawals from Lebanese territory in light of the meetings being held by the delegations participating in the negotiations.

His excellency the president and the prime minister expressed their hope that the course of the negotiations will progress toward speeding up the withdrawals and the realization of the salvation process.

The Cabinet then discussed the items on its agenda and approved them.

The prime minister presented to the Cabinet the resignation submitted by Dr 'Umar Musayki [the secretary general for Cabinet affairs], who has become the chairman of a bank's Board of Directors. After deliberation, the Cabinet accepted his resignation.

AL-JUMAYYIL CHAIRS MEETING OF NEGOTIATING TEAM

NC052014 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] Following the Cabinet meeting tonight, President Amin al-Jumayyil chaired a meeting attended by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, coordinator general to the negotiations Ghazzan Tuwayni, leader of the Lebanese delegation to the negotiations Ambassador Antoine Fattal, and Staff Brigadier General 'Abbas Hamdan.

The meeting reviewed the atmosphere of the current contacts regarding the Lebanese-Israeli-American negotiations and what the Lebanese delegation will raise during the fourth session, to be held in Qiryat Shemona tomorrow.

SHAM'UN, PIERRE AL-JUMAYYIL ON TRIPOLI, TALKS

NC051814 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] The Lebanese Front has expressed its satisfaction with the security situation in the mountain. At its meeting today, it discussed the progress of the Lebanese-American-Israeli negotiations.

Following the meeting, [former] President Camille Sham'un said that the front is carefully watching the stages of the negotiations and their anticipated results. He said that President Amin al-Jumayyil's message to the Lebanese on the occasion of the New Year was the closest way to the hearts.

Sham'un also called for a halt to the painful events in Tripoli.

Pierre al-Jumayyil said that what is taking place in Tripoli is a crime that is a continuation of the crimes committed throughout Lebanon. The great crime, the Phalangist leader said, is the fact that the Lebanese are not giving sufficient attention to what is taking place now and that what is happening in Tripoli is not foreign-made inasmuch as it is an inter-Arab affair. It is regrettable, he added, that the Arabs are not giving the matter the attention due it.

The Phalangist leader further said: The Lebanese-Israeli negotiations are extremely important, particularly because we notice that there are no slanders and vituperations. He expressed his hope that these negotiations will be the first step along the path of the solution to the Palestinian problem and the Middle East crisis. This solution cannot be achieved without the salvation of Lebanon.

PRESS COMMENTS ON U.S. ROLE IN NEGOTIATIONS

NC060811 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 6 Jan 83

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Under the title "Lebanon's Calculations," AN-NAHAR says: When Lebanon decided to attend the negotiations it was aware of the difficulty and seriousness of this decision as it was also aware of the consequences of not making this decision. AN-NAHAR adds: Lebanon's interest is once again clashing with the interest of many others who are calling for the need to once again link Lebanon's crisis with the area's crisis. The question of linking or separating the crises will be determined by the U.S. Administration, which continues to emphasize that Lebanon's problem is still being given priority.

In its editorial, AL-ANWAR says: Lebanon appears as if it is negotiating with Israel on behalf of the Arabs. Israel is negotiating with Lebanon as if it is negotiating with all the Arab states to the extent that Yitzhaq Shamir speaks of Israeli pressures on Lebanon to balance the Arab pressures and the United States is the full partner of all.

AL-ANWAR adds: Israel is shaking its stick, demanding what is more than a realistic peace and the Arabs are shaking their stick, demanding Lebanon use the no's, which were dropped at the Fes summit, without suggesting what they will offer if the negotiations fail. The United States must use its stick not against Lebanon but against Israel and the Arab sides because what concerns it is success regardless of the price.

AS-SAFIR believes that the fate of the negotiations depends upon the U.S. stand. The paper expresses the hope that there will be an effective intervention to remove pessimism from the negotiations because of Israel's intransigence. The paper believes that the absence of an effective U.S. stand in the Khaldah and Qiryat Shemona negotiations makes Israel adopt a hardline stance aimed at harming Lebanon's sovereignty and independence.

AL-BAYRAQ centers on the U.S. stance on the negotiations and says: The United States believes that the non-withdrawal of foreign armies from Lebanon is harmful to U.S. interests in the area and delays the peace process in the Middle East.

ASH-SHARQ stresses in broad terms that Israel has rejected the U.S. compromise and that Philip Habib will return to the area, noting at the same time a statement by U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger affirming that any delay in withdrawals will affect U.S. interests.

FRONT CALLS FOR SYRIAN WITHDRAWAL FROM TRIPOLI

NC041218 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Efforts are currently being made to calm the situation in Tripoli. For this reason, former Prime Minister Rashid Karami left Tripoli for Damascus this morning.

Meanwhile, a plenary security meeting has been held at the residence of Governor Iskandar Ghibril attended by representatives of various parties.

All organizations in Tripoli are unanimously calling for radical and effective handling of the situation.

While a high-level Syrian military delegation was reportedly expected to arrive in Tripoli to help calm the explosive and serious situation in the city, the Islamic Salvation Front, through its leader Muhammad 'Ali Dinnawi, called for convening a national Islamic conference in the northern capital to tackle the situation in Tripoli and to make the appropriate decisions. The front also called on Syria to withdraw its forces from the city.

At the same time, Deputy 'Abd al-Majid ar-Rafi'i has sent an urgent cable to King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and to the Arab League requesting them to immediately intervene to save Tripoli.

CASUALTIES IN TRIPOLI; KARAMI RETURNS FROM SYRIA

NC051414 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] According to security reports received from the second capital in the north, shells are falling haphazardly on several areas in Tripoli and the sound of explosions is being heard from long distances away.

The reports speak about many dead or wounded. The security forces have not been able to access the number because of the violent clashes.

Immediately on his return to Tripoli from Damascus, [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami convened a meeting of the coordination body in the north.

KARAMI ANNOUNCES AGREEMENT ON CEASE-FIRE

NC051745 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] The security situation in Tripoli continues to be tragically explosive. In addition to the falling shells, Tripoli is suffering from the impact of a supplies crisis and from water, electricity, and telephone cuts.

Security sources in the north report that violent clashes are continuing in several areas of Tripoli. All types of heavy weapons are being used. Hundreds of shells have fallen on the residential quarters, killing or wounding a large number of people. It has not been possible to assess their number because of the ferocity of the clashes. However, certain reports say that about 50 persons were killed in the past 24 hours.

The meeting of the [northern] coordination committee, which was held under the chairmanship of [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami, ended at 1500. Following the meeting, Karami said that a political decision has been adopted providing for a total cease-fire, the withdrawal of gunmen, and the removal of armed manifestations. He added that joint forces of the coordination committee will supervise the implementation of the decision in the areas extending north of Nahr Abu 'Ali up to (Jabal Muhsin) and that the internal security forces will maintain security in the other parts of the city.

Karami pointed out that a delegation of senior Syrian military officers is in Tripoli and that it will stay in the city until the situation eases.

As a result of the intensive contacts and efforts that the governor of the north, Iskandar Ghibril, has made with the oil minister, the management of the oil installations in Tripoli and the Qadishah [electricity] Company, sufficient quantities of fuel have been provided, enabling the Al-Hurayshah plant to continue to supply power to the city of Tripoli, while continuing the rationing program.

Governor Chibril has also contacted the director of the hygiene authority in the north and the director of the Islamic hospital on the treatment of liver patients because of the increasing number of patients suffering from this disease [as heard] in the northern province. The governor said that the technical telephone team sent from Beirut have repaired a significant part of the damages.

### More on Cease-Fire

NC051950 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] Regarding the security situation in Tripoli, [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami has announced that a political decision has been adopted providing for a cease-fire and for collecting the arms in the city of Tripoli and achieving a reconciliation among the belligerents.

Karami chaired a meeting of the coordination committee in the north this afternoon. The security situation in general and ways of restoring stability in the city were discussed.

Following the meeting, Karami said: We are all pained by what has happened and what is happening. We have paid a heavy price in the blood of our sons and their interests. This must be an incentive for work to save the situation.

On this basis, I went to Damascus and met with President al-Asad. I found an understanding there of all that is happening and complete readiness to act in order to confront and foil this plot.

Therefore, I address myself to all the sons of Tripoli, with whom we share their feelings, pains, and sufferings, to assure them that there will be no return to the past days, God willing, and that the start of the deliverance will mark the final end of this tragedy.

Karami added: A senior officers delegation has come from Damascus to supervise this work and to stay in Tripoli until normalcy is restored to it and also to help remove the armed manifestations, withdraw the gunmen, collect the arms, and achieve reconciliation.

In conclusion, Karami said: We are confident that all the sons of Tripoli will cooperate to defend Tripoli against this plot.

### Cease-Fire Not Implemented

NC060625 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 6 Jan 83

[Text] This morning, a security source informed us that the violent clashes in Tripoli have eased but that the cease-fire agreement has not been implemented so far. The At-Tabbanah, Ba'l Mohsin, and Al-Qubbah areas are still being subjected to sniper fire from light-and medium-caliber arms and some RPG's.

Last night the city witnessed clashes with various types of arms. All roads leading to the areas of the clashes are precarious and the northern access to Tripoli from Al-Mallulah is still out.

In 'Alayh, calm prevailed for the third successive day.

ARMY CARRIES OUT SEARCHES IN BEIRUT SUBURB

NC060842 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 6 Jan 83

[Text] This morning Lebanese Army units carried out searches for wanted persons and for people who have formed gangs and cells in coordination with Palestinian and communist quarters in the southern suburb [of Beirut].

The Lebanese Army sealed off all the entry points to the suburb from the directions of Galerie Sin'an, Al-Hadath, Ash-Shuwayfat, the airport, and Al-Awza'i.

ISRAELIS DETAINING ARAB LEADERS IN SOUTH

NC051817 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] Arrivals from the south have reported that the Zionist occupation authorities have surrounded the Majdal Silm township, following the Zionist claims about the discovery of Katyusha rockets installed in its hills.

The occupation forces have detained a number of the township's sons, foremost being ulema Ahmad Shawqui, the secretary general of the ulema society; the township's imam, Shaykh Husam al-Amin; and citizens 'Ali Musa az-Zuhuri, Ahmad 'Ali Ahmad, Fahd Hasan 'Arandaj, Yusuf 'Al' ad-Din, Hasan 'Ala' ad-Din, 'Ali Muhammad Abu Ta'am, Mahmud Ahmad Halawah, and Husayn Ahmad Shawqi al-Amin.

LEBANESE PAPER ON SYRIAN ACQUISITION OF SAM-5'S

NC051134 Paris AFP in English 1130 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Beirut, Jan. 5 (AFP) -- A Lebanese newspaper with close ties to the Syrian Government today confirmed that Syria has acquired Soviet-made SAM-5 missiles.

The paper, ASH-SHARQ, citing "well-informed sources in Damascus," said Syria had made repeated requests for the missiles "in order to re-establish the balance between Syrian forces and the Israeli army."

It warned that Syria would take steps to "restore" Arab rights "at the opportune moment and location, for it possesses the means and the arms, of which the SAM-5 missiles are only one part."

Without indicating when the missiles were delivered, ASH-SHARQ said it was the first time the SAM-5's had ever been taken out of the Soviet Union.

An Israeli military spokesman yesterday charged that Syria was constructing two new bases on its territory to accommodate the advanced SAM-5 anti-aircraft weapons.

(Newspapers in Israel today said the re-armament of Syrian forces by the Soviet Union and the establishment of bases near Damascus to house the SAM-5 -- which have a range of 250 kms (155 miles) -- could have serious consequences in the region.)

ASH-SHARQ argued that the Israeli statement on the bases was a prelude to an attack on the Syrian Armed Forces. The paper stressed that what it termed Israeli intransigence demonstrated that Arab rights could only be restored by force.

In its editorial, ASH-SHARQ contended that Syria had the right to acquire offensive arms "as long as a single Arab territory remains occupied by Israel." It added that the war in Lebanon revealed Israeli military superiority only in the air.

LEBANON'S KARAMI LEAVES FOR TRIPOLI WITH SYRIANS

JN051054 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] Former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami left Damascus this morning at the end of a brief visit to Syria during which he met with President Hafiz al-Asad.

In a statement to a SANA correspondent before leaving Damascus, Rashid Karami said: I am pleased and satisfied with President Hafiz al-Asad's awareness of what is going on, particularly with regard to the plot aimed against Tripoli and all Lebanon, because the enemies are still planning and working for the implementation of their aims and ambitions as represented by subjugating Lebanon to their hegemony and domination in an attempt to establish sectarian ministates and impose partition solutions.

Karami added: Hence, we are confident in the people's enlightenment and firm belief that they will stand against all these schemes and uphold their rights, sovereignty, and destiny. Therefore, we consider all those participating in the Tripoli incidents either ignorant of the plot or involved in it. In both cases, we cannot remain silent or accept what is going on. Accordingly, we are determined to ensure a comprehensive and strong cease-fire and then remove the armed manifestations, withdraw the armed elements, collect weapons, and achieve national accord so that Tripoli--this national Arab citadel -- will be restored to its effective and militant role and will be able to carry out its duties within the general course of the march, which is basically the course it has accepted for itself and was famous for throughout its history.

Hence, we assert that Syria has a basic role to play in this struggle. We and Syria are therefore following this course, and we will never relinquish our responsibilities and duties regardless of circumstances and difficulties.

Karami added: President Hafiz al-Asad has adopted the stand we hoped for. Accordingly, he has instructed a committee of high-ranking officers to accompany us to Tripoli. This committee is determined to work in such a manner that will achieve our hopes in restoring security, stability, and normal life to the city as soon as possible, God willing.

Karami indicated that President Hafiz al-Asad has stressed to him that Tripoli and its people occupy a special place in his heart and that no one should ever think that Syria is for one faction against another. Syria is for all the northeners and Lebanese and will continue along the road of justice and peace.

He said: When we say that there is a plot, we mean that anyone who is an enemy, or deals with this enemy is considered a hireling and agent. What we see in Tripoli is aimed at confusing the Lebanese negotiator, weakening authority, and drawing people away from any serious work to confront the dangers surrounding us. Karami added that he does not think that anyone is unaware of the enemies' ability, particularly that of Israel, in the field of propaganda, news media, and lies. Therefore, he said, we are not surprised at all the methods to which they resort. Here I want to recall what they are circulating concerning stands of the Lebanese authority and documents about which they claim to have reached agreement with some officials, although the authority continues to deny all their claims.

Karami continued: I do not think that anyone is unaware of the fact that division is one of the first methods used by them, because it is a destructive weapon. We must all realize this. Since the enemy seeks to divide us, we should close our ranks and preserve our unity and solidarity, as this is the sharp weapon with which we can confront the enemies.

DEFENSE MINISTER TALAS COMMENTS ON LEBANON

PM051305 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 1-7 Jan 83 pp 17-20

[General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the army and armed forces and defense minister, interviewed by Louis Faris in Damascus -- date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] In your view, what are the most important results, from a military standpoint, of the clashes between the Syrian and Israeli armies from the beginning of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon to date?

[Answer] Several major facts clearly emerged during the 1970's and the early 1980's. These facts are evident in the substantial progress our Syrian Arab region achieved on the various levels under the wise and courageous leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad. I can say that the October 1973 liberation war, which our armed forces fought with great efficiency and courage and distinguished capability, marked the beginning of a process of dispersing the illusions the Zionist enemy tried to create about its invincible army, particularly its Air Force. The whole world saw our fighter shattering those illusions with both his hands and his brains through the successful and effective use of modern weapons and sophisticated equipment and through his utilization of modern technology in a manner that captured the admiration of many experts and specialists in the advanced countries. This was exactly what enraged imperialism and its agent, Zionism, and prompted our enemies to seek to obliterate the truth and to try to detract from the proper standing that our fighter won as a result of the October war.

Israel, through its media, had set only a few days for the completion of what it called Operation "peace for Galilee", but those days extended to weeks and months during which Israel reaped bitter frustration in the face of both stiff resistance and the Lebanese resistance [as published], which is still harassing the occupying invaders. What is happening in southern Lebanon, and particularly the destruction of the invading forces' headquarters in Tyre, is the best example.

The recent battles in Lebanon against the Zionist enemy have proved the capability of our armed forces and showed that it is possible to achieve victory against the Arab nation's enemies, particularly since the Syrian Arab region has taken major steps toward ensuring strategic balance with the enemy, who also relies on technological development and is developing his methods of training and preparation.

[Question] What is the military situation of the Syrian Army today in comparison with what it was prior to the Israeli invasion in Lebanon?

[Answer] Today, we are stronger than yesterday and tomorrow we will be stronger than today. Our own strength, on which we depend in confronting the forces of invasion and aggression, is continuously growing. We are not taken by this comparison. [sentence as published] Our strength comes above all things and we secure all its requirements. Ensuring the means to constantly maintain it at the highest level of combat readiness is what we seek to do day and night. Contrary to what some may imagine, the Lebanon war that our brave fighters fought bravely and efficiently has enhanced our strength and given us new experience. It has become clear to us that the October war spirit has become more entrenched in the spirit of our men. The war has also proved to us that defeating the invaders is possible despite all the weapons and equipment with which U.S. imperialism has provided them. This was what President al-Asad confirmed a few weeks ago when he said: "The fighting in Lebanon has proved the possibility of winning." The battles in Lebanon, in which limited forces from our army forming the Arab Deterrent Force (ADF) participated, shattered the enemy's illusions that it could achieve its strategic aims, impose surrender on our Arab nation, and revive the dead Camp David and present it in a new guise. Our people were quick to expose this disguise. Also, the fierce battles that our brave fighters fought alongside the joint forces and the Palestinian Resistance prevented the Israelis from recovering from the shock of the October war.

Doesn't the whole world now see, 7 months after the Zionist invasion of Lebanon, what is happening inside the Zionist entity, either because of the enemy leaders' lies -- which events have refuted -- or because of the heavy burden weighing on that racist entity, particularly in view of the heavy losses it has suffered and is still suffering?

[Question] Are you satisfied with your military dealings with the Soviets? Do you still believe that Soviet arms in the Syrian forces' hands can confront the Israeli army's sophisticated U.S. arms?

[Answer] Our Syrian Arab region is facing two basic challenges: the first is the challenge of the Zionist invasion of our Arab land, which imperialism is backing by every means, and the second is the challenge of development, to which efforts are being devoted and which makes it incumbent upon us to strive and work harder to keep abreast of modern progress. Consequently, we are struggling with determination and strength to tighten the cohesion between our struggle to repeal the Zionist-imperialist invasion, liberate our usurped land, and restore our Palestinian Arab people's rights and our struggle to continue development and construction in the various fields. Therefore, to achieve this we depend on our own resources and the support of our Arab people as well as on the assistance of our friends in the socialist countries headed by the Soviet Union, which gives continued support to our just causes both by offering arms and equipment and through political support in the international organizations. With regard to the question of arms itself, it is as President al-Asad said: "The Israelis have superiority in certain technological fields; some of their arms are better than ours, but we have certain arms that are better than theirs."

In any case, and as I have already said, our strength is growing constantly and assuming new dimensions toward the achievement of strategic balance, which depends not on arms only but also on man and his personal qualities as well as on the type of training and the use of modern weapons under various combat conditions. In light of the heavy losses the Israelis suffered during the war in Lebanon, we can see how bravely our soldier fought at his post and how efficient he was in the use of modern weapons. In the future he will be stronger and braver; he will express the will of our Arab people and achieve their hopes and aspirations, thanks to his loyalty and devotion.

[Question] Is it possible to compare the Syrian Air Force with the Israeli Air Force, particularly since the burden of confrontation mainly falls on Syria and its Air Force.

[Answer] Our Air Force fought the most violent battles in the Lebanese skies against the Israeli Air Force. World news agencies described these battles as unprecedented in the history of war with regard to both the number of aircraft involved and the tactics used by our pilots in those battles. When we fought those battles, and in the earlier battles when we were constantly engaging the Israeli Air Force -- which was raiding our people in Lebanon even before the Zionist invasion -- we did not draw comparisons between the aircraft that the Israelis have and which, together with other weapons, the United States supplied to them with such generosity, and the aircraft and equipment we have. This is because in our stand against the invasion and aggression we rely on our self-confidence and are motivated by our belief in the justice of our cause, the cause of all the Arab nation.

We also rely on our heroic fighters and their extraordinary courage, which the enemy himself has admitted. The Israelis have admitted that 23 of their aircraft were hit in the Lebanon war. Of course, these enemy aircraft were hit by Syrian aircraft. In the beginning the enemy sought to conceal the fact, but in the end he was forced to admit it after the uproar raised over the heavy losses he suffered in Lebanon. It is important, however, to say that, if the enemy had superiority in certain types of Israeli aircraft, this did not prevent our heroic pilots from engaging and intercepting him and inflicting heavy losses on his Air Force. This is in addition to striking at enemy columns, formations and ground concentrations, thus inflicting very heavy losses on the enemy. I would like to say that man himself is more important to us and, as President al-Asad said, "we could lose our arms one day, but we would find replacements another day, if not quickly. We have large numbers of brave and well-trained pilots and we have large cadres for all weapons .... This [Israeli] superiority should not continue. This superiority in equipment and weapons, even in limited fields and on a limited scale, should not and will not continue.

[Question] How do you evaluate the military situation today in the Lebanese field and in the Golan?

[Answer] The Israeli invasion still exists and the Zionist enemy is still occupying Lebanese territory in defiance of the whole world and all international laws and customs. He is thus once again proving his aggressive and expansionist intentions. This proves beyond any doubt that the invasion was a studied plan aimed at dragging us into a surrender position under the slogan "the United States is with Israel, and so Israel cannot be defeated or resisted." But we have resisted this plan and rejected this saying. We are continuing to strengthen our forces and raise their combat readiness in Al-Biqa' and in the Golan in order to face all contingencies and resist the conspiracies against the entire Arab existence. As President al-Asad said: "We have fought in defense of Syria and the Arab nation and will pay the tax of Arab honor without asking anybody for thanks or appreciation." We have been able to prevent Israel from achieving any strategic objective through its invasion of Lebanon. What is important to us now is to resist firmly and resolutely in order to prevent the imposition of surrender, which is clearly Israel's objective in invading Lebanon. I confidently say that no force can drag us into accepting what we never wanted; we take everything into account and build our own strength in order to achieve the peace which we want and which accords with the requirements and national aspirations of our Arab people.

[Question] Could you tell us the story of the Syrian missiles in Lebanon? How were they destroyed, and how did you find suitable solutions to enhance the Syrian air defense efficiency?

[Answer] We have no story called "the story of missiles in Lebanon." In the first place, we introduced antiaircraft missiles into Lebanese territory as a support for our forces, which are part of the ADF, and as a contribution to defense against Israeli aircraft, which had stepped up their raids and barbaric attacks on our Lebanese and Palestinian brothers, including their women, children, and old people. Israel then created a major uproar about these missiles, which was probably connected with the adverse psychological effect the antiaircraft missiles had on the Israelis in the 1973 war, especially among the Zionist pilots.

Moreover, strengthening air defense on Lebanese territory would hamper the Zionist enemy plans and curb his barbaric attacks on civilians. After a series of threats and a fabricated uproar, Israel cooperated with U.S. imperialism, to which Anwar as-Sadat had given a number of Soviet missiles. Through its advanced technology, the United States was able to discover the frequencies on which the Soviet missiles operated and passed this information to Israel, which was able to pinpoint the batteries of anti-aircraft missiles, jam them, and then destroy them with newly-programmed missiles. This action was part of the war operations that were going on between us and the Zionist enemy. Although Israel may have been able to bomb these batteries, it was unable to eliminate and drive them away. What is even more important is that it utterly failed to harm the Syrian air defense personnel, who, on the contrary, became more solid and stronger in facing the Zionist aggressors. On 24 July 1982, our air defenses were able to shoot down a number of enemy aircraft flying in Lebanese skies. One of these planes, a Phantom, crashed with its crew on Lebanese territory.

Air defense is a part of our armed forces, which we are continuously seeking to strengthen and which we are making great efforts to raise to the level of the national tasks assigned to them and the challenges facing our Arab nation throughout the Arab homeland.

[Question] The Syrian information minister has stated that parity between Syria and Israel in the field of air arms will be achieved shortly. What is your comment on this?

[Answer] As I have already said, our Syrian Arab region is making steady progress toward achieving strategic balance with the Zionist enemy in the various fields. This balance is our only option for achieving just peace, the liberation of our usurped land, and the restoration of our Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights. Such a balance involves many factors relating to training and preparedness as well as armament. The resources and capabilities available to us will enable us to achieve what we are striving for. The Israeli supremacy in some fields will not last, however the forces of aggression and injustice may support it.

[Question] You are a member of the ruling Ba'th Party Command. How do you evaluate the political situation in Lebanon and the Arab world and Syria's international relations?

[Answer] What is most important for us in the march of struggle and confrontation is that we should continue to strengthen our steadfast stand and incessantly work to thwart and smash all attempts at surrender as well as to strengthen our confidence that no attempts at threatening us or tempting us will put us in a situation of fear or retreat. The current continuing occupation and invasion and the attempts to open a back road to Camp David will only strengthen our insistence and enhance our self-confidence. In this we depend on our growing self-reliance, the will of our Arab masses, and the support of free men in the world. Our forces have put a stop to the crushing civil war, preserved Lebanese unity and security, and stopped the invasion and aggression. Our forces are continuing to do so, prompted by fraternal and national ties, common Arab interests, and the indissoluble historical bond between the two countries. However, this factor alone is insufficient. Rather, there is need for political steps to achieve national accord among the various parties, which is the responsibility of political leaderships in Lebanon. Only accord can take Lebanon out of the atmosphere of civil war and thereby repel Israeli dangers, designs, and ambitions.

[Question] Much has been said about Syrian military aid to Iran. What is your opinion about this?

[Answer] Our attitude to the Iraq-Iran war, which the ruling regime in Iraq started in implementation of the desires of U.S. imperialism and Zionism, is clear and frank. We have already said more than once that we stand on the side of valiant Iraqi people and the brave Iraqi Army. But the question concerns the ruling regime in Baghdad, which started this war and initiated the invasion of Iran. The development of events has proved that our view was right, after this crazy war brought calamities to our valiant people in the sisterly Iraqi region. I would like to say briefly that our strength, which we build with sweat and blood, can only be for the defense of our Arab people in every place in the great Arab homeland. This is our fixed principle, from which we will not deviate an inch.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES LEBANON'S WALID JUNBLATT 5 JAN

JN051444 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] At 1400 today, President Haliz al-Asad received Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party; Marwan Hamadah, former Lebanese minister; and Riad Ra'd, one of the leaders of the Progressive Socialist Party. They discussed the situation in Lebanon.

LEVI CALLED TO REVIEW TALKS WITH LEBANON

TA060530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 6 Jan 83

[Text] Talks between Lebanon, Israel and the United States will resume this morning in Qiryat Shemona. The talks are intended to formulate an agreed upon agenda for the talks. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer learned that Deputy Prime Minister David Levi called this week in the Cabinet session to review the government's stands on the issue of Lebanon in the face of the reports on a growing Soviet involvement in Syria, and the growing Syrian involvement in Lebanon. Minister Levi suggested establishing a team of intelligence experts that will give its evaluation to the government. According to Levi there is no value in an agreement signed by President al-Jumayyil who wishes to satisfy all sides. Minister Levi notes that it is absurd to continue and try to push the United States out of the negotiations when reports are publicized on the growing Soviet involvement.

DRAPER REPORTEDLY UNSUCCESSFUL WITH LEBANESE

TA051133 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] U.S. Ambassador Morris Draper did not succeed in persuading the Lebanese Government to agree to an agreed upon formulation for the matter of normalization between Israel and Lebanon. Our political correspondent reports that envoy Draper reported on this today at a meeting with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. At noon the prime minister met with Minister Sharon, Minister Shamir and members of the delegation to the talks.

Draper Proposal Rejected

TA051510 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] The Israeli steering committee for the negotiations with Lebanon has rejected a compromise proposal by U.S. envoy Morris Draper regarding the agenda for the negotiations. Draper suggested that the Israeli and Lebanese delegations exchange letters with their proposals regarding the issues of the negotiations, and that the two delegations approve the letters.

In a consultation held at the prime minister's office at noon, this idea was rejected, and Israel continues to demand that the normalization principle be included in the negotiations.

Further Details

TA051539 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] The consultations held in Jerusalem today have not brought about a change in the positions regarding the negotiations with Lebanon. The Israeli steering committee has again decided that the normalization issue will be included on the agenda of the talks, despite the fact that U.S. envoy Morris Draper announced that Beirut is not prepared for this. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports:

[Begin Frankel recording] Morris Draper arrived in Jerusalem after a long stay in Beirut. In his talk with the foreign minister this morning, the U.S. envoy repeated familiar arguments. The Lebanese Government, he said, is subject to enormous pressures against normalization in relations with Israel.

The pressures are exerted by Arab countries, especially Syria and Saudi Arabia, and no less great pressure from the domestic arena by the various factions and groups. The bottom line of the envoy's remarks are: Beirut cannot agree that the agenda of the talks include a clause which clearly defines the thawing [hafsharat] of relations between Israel and Lebanon.

Draper also brought with him an idea of his own to bypass the problem: A suggestion which talks of an exchange of letters between the parties, and does not include a mention of the disputed clause on the agenda. The foreign minister rejected the idea out of hand. Minister Shamir told his guests: The pressures applied to Lebanon are known to us; Lebanon must understand that the relations between the two countries are no longer as they used to be. Israel will insist on its demand [derishata] regarding the agenda. This is what Shamir said to Draper, and this is also the decision of the steering committee headed by the prime minister.

Some people in Jerusalem today defined Draper's proposal as a trial balloon and attributed it to the tactics of of the negotiations. Political elements today again cast doubt about the role the U.S. envoy is playing in the contacts. Morris Draper is more interested in Lebanese internal political needs than in an agreement between the two countries. Moreover, political circles claimed today that the message which Draper is bringing with him again indicates that the torn Lebanon is not a serious partner at the negotiations table. [end recording]

SHAMIR COMMENTS ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH LEBANON

TA051931 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Foreign Minister Shamir interviewed by political correspondent Yoram Ronen, in Jerusalem on 5 January -- videotaped]

[Text] [Ronen] Morris Draper today asked the foreign minister to take President al-Jumayyil's delicate position into consideration and to meet him halfway on the normalization issue. The foreign minister reminded Draper that Israel already met Lebanon halfway when it softened the formulation of the normalization clause and when it accepted Lebanon's proposal that there would be specification of the Israeli-Lebanese neighborly relations without mentioning the word normalization.

The foreign minister explained to us this evening why Israel is unprepared to accept Lebanon's proposal that there be no such agenda item in the Israeli-Lebanese negotiations.

[Shamir] It is very difficult to conduct negotiations without an agenda, and usually, in conferences of this kind, the discussion about the agenda and about procedure is sometimes a discussion about very substantive issues.

[Question] In your opinion, can U.S. pressure on Lebanon make it change its position and meet us halfway?

[Answer] We do not like to use the term pressure, neither with regard to us nor with regard to others. However, I think that such U.S. influence would be desirable.

[Question] Mr Shamir, do you take a grave view of the new Soviet arms supply to Syria?

[Answer] We take a grave view of any supply of modern and sophisticated arms. We are following this new development with great interest and await further developments.

[Question] Do you believe that this arms supply was intended to foil the Israeli-Lebanese talks?

[Answer] I hope it will not foil the talks.

[Question] In conclusion, Mr Shamir, there are increased reports that King Husayn is going to join negotiations, to start a dialogue with us in a few weeks. Is this your impression too?

[Answer] It is hard to determine anything at the moment. These are guesses, rumors or speculation. I can only say that Israel will welcome King Husayn's joining the peace process in the framework of the Camp David accords.

Normalization Stance

TA051827 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Report by David Essing -- recorded]

[Text] When the Israeli, Lebanese and American negotiators reconvene in Qiryat Shemona tomorrow, Israel's David Kimche will again insist that the principle of normalization be a separate issue on the agenda. A high-level Israeli source says defining the idea of normalization is of key importance in the negotiations. Speaking after Draper's contacts in Jerusalem, the Israeli official said it would be very difficult to negotiate substantive issues without an understanding between Israel and Lebanon. In the words of the official, in these negotiations a discussion of procedure is also a discussion of substance. Jerusalem then contends that good, neighborly, normal relations are in the interest of both countries, and on this score Israel would like to see the United States urging Lebanon's President al-Jumayyil in that direction.

In other developments today, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says the Arab political effort is now aimed at getting Israel to return to the 1967 borders. This was euphemistically called the peace process, but it had nothing to do with real peace. It was rather the first stage in the Arab plan to liquidate Israel. Shamir declared that Israel could not exist along the old frontier and would not give up her presence in Judaea and Samaria.

Speaking to the World Union of Jewish Students in Jerusalem, the foreign minister also referred to reports that King Husayn might join the negotiations. In Shamir's words: We read in the press that King Husayn is seeking an Arab mandate to join the negotiations, but such an Arab mandate would be so extreme so as to be rejected by all Israelis. The foreign minister added that Jordan, like Egypt, could only negotiate on the basis of the Camp David accords, and he went on: Jordan, like Lebanon, could be ready to make peace only after it had freed itself from pan-Arab pressure.

Reagan Plan, West Bank

TA051942 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1920 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Jerusalem, 5 Jan (ITIM) -- "We read in the press today that Jordan will join the peace negotiations after it receives the consent of the Arab countries, but we are certain that this agreement by the Arab countries will not be acceptable to anyone in Israel and in the Jewish world, even the "most extreme dove." This was said today by Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, who appeared before the participants of the World Union of Jewish Students (WUJS) conference in Jerusalem.

Mr Shamir noted that what is today called the peace process is a general, political Arab effort to reach the first stage of Israel's annihilation; namely, to drive it back to the 1967 borders. "After they attempted to liquidate Israel by military, economic, and terrorist means, even by way of a nuclear bomb, and failed, Saddam Husayn, 'Arafat and the radical Arab leaders have today reached the conclusion that it is impossible to annihilate the State of Israel by these means, and therefore they found a different way which is the "step by step doctrine for the annihilation of Israel," the foreign minister said.

The minister emphasized that Israel insists on maintaining the conditions of security and existence necessary for true peace. It is for this reason, for its existence, that Israel is opposed to President Reagan's plan, since it cannot give up its presence in Judaea and Samaria.

Nevertheless, Shamir emphasized that Israel continues to call on Egypt to return to the negotiations table, and is calling on Jordan also to join the peace negotiations in the framework of the Camp David accords, without additional conditions. As for Lebanon, Mr Shamir believes that we will reach peace with it "the moment it frees itself from the pan-Arab pressures applied to it daily, and even at this very moment, that it dare not make the smallest possible move for peace with Israel."

The foreign minister expressed his opinion that in the future Israel will make peace with every Arab country, but it is clear to him that we will never reach an agreement with the PLO, since "its very existence and goal are aimed at liquidating the State of Israel."

EYTAN SAYS NO WEST BANK FOR PEACE TRADE

TA060935 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Jan 83 p 2

[Text] [ITIM report] Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan told a gathering of students in Jerusalem last night that Judaea and Samaria should not be given up, "not even for peace."

In response to questions by participants at the World Union of Jewish Students 19th world conference, Eytan reiterated his well-known view that Judaea and Samaria are part of Eretz Yisa'el. "Whoever proposes returning Judaea and Samaria, even in exchange for peace, is actually proposing to return the Jewish people to the Diaspora," said Eytan.

SHARON, SYRIAN CHIEF OF STAFF REPORTEDLY MEET

TA060848 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Jan 83 p 1

[Text] New York -- Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon met Syrian chief-of-Staff General ash-Shihabi here recently, the Hebrew language weekly YISRA'EL SHELANU [OUR ISRAEL] reported this week. Sharon visited New York two weeks ago.

The paper said Sharon and Ash-Shihabi discussed ways to prevent the Lebanese situation from escalating into a Middle East war.

The weekly based its story on "Israeli sources."

SHARON INTERVIEW ON POLITICAL, MILITARY ISSUES

TA052022 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1935 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Interview with Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon by Ya'aqov Ahime'ir, Yoram Ronen, and Dan Scemama on the weekly Moqed program; in the television studio -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Defense Minister, good evening. Mr Sharon, what significance do you attach to the stationing of surface-to-air missiles of the SAM-5 type in Syria, near Damascus, to the possibility of stationing such missiles there?

[Answer] We have been following this development for several weeks now. We have also called U.S. attention to this, since the moment we discovered this development. I hope that the Soviet Union knows that we do not have a military conflict with it. To our regret, we have a military conflict with radical Arab countries. It should be remembered that there have already been phenomena of missiles in the past; these are not the first missiles in the region. We remember the time in Egypt when 17,000 Soviet experts were there at the peak of the Soviet involvement in that country. Today too there are Soviets in Syria: More than 2,000 Soviet experts. We still remember the missiles in Egypt and the question is where this matter led Egypt and where it led the Soviet Union. It should only be regretted that instead of words, the Soviets send missiles. After all, it was the Soviets who severed diplomatic relations with Israel in 1967 and I would like to believe, I hope, that Andropov has no interest in exacerbating relations, nor in exacerbating relations between Syria and Israel.

[Question] Mr Minister, can Israel put up with the presence of such missiles in Syria, missiles which, if they indeed reach Syria, will threaten almost the entire northern part of Israel?

[Answer] Regarding the military threats, we have matured already. Since the first missiles appeared in the region, missiles which were not surface-to-air and which date back to An-Nasir's days, and then since the Soviet surface-to-air missiles appeared, we have matured. It is impossible to threaten us with the issue of missiles. Do not the Syrian [as heard] surface-to-surface missiles present in Syria today cover all the populated areas of Israel? All of Israel's populated centers are within the range of the Syrian SCAD missiles which are positioned in the Damascus region, including Beersheba in the south. Iraq also has such missiles, although their missiles cannot hit us due to the distance, unless they are introduced into Jordanian territory, as they may easily be. We continue to lead our lives.

[Question] Your remarks imply that the danger inherent in the SAM-5 missiles is less great than that of the SCAD missiles which threaten the large population centers in Israel?

[Answer] No, no. I do not think we should make light of things, under no circumstances. Even if some claim these missiles are obsolete, I would not propose to make light of the missiles issue. At the same time, to try to terrorize, to fighten the public, the people on this issue, to my regret to use this issue even for the needs of the internal dispute -- all of this should not be done, in my opinion. We have learned to live with problems. Thank God, and I hope we will not be needing it, we have an extraordinary army, an extraordinary Air Force, and what I would define as the Jewish brains which are capable of finding solutions, which have found solutions in the past. I emphasize again: I hope this will be unnecessary.

I hope that the Syrians too understand that there is no point in another military move. I hope that the Soviets have no interest in aggravating relations. We should do two things: First, learn this issue thoroughly, to prepare the answers in case of necessity, and I hope the necessity will not arise; in other words, to make all necessary preparations. Second, we should continue to lead normal lives. Anyone who thinks for a moment that a single Israeli plane will change its course of flight in Israel, whether it is a fighter or a cargo plane which reaches Israel's shores, or a passenger plane which reaches the Israeli airports, is mistaken. We will continue to lead our lives the same as we have to date, while adopting all precautions. I think that one should have a serious view of matters but also keep one's cool. We have answers in case of necessity for this issue as well. I hope that everyone will understand that the answers and solutions for the issues are political and not military. This is what Israel is aiming at and this is what the Israeli Government is working to accomplish.

[Question] Mr Minister, do you not think that the Soviet intention to expand its involvement in Syria, as we have seen recently, is a reaction to the war in Lebanon and our approaching Damascus?

[Answer] I would say that a number of possibilities exist here. One is that it is no doubt the outcome of Israel having provided the answer to the missile problem, as manifested in the peace for Galilee war. This may perhaps be a political maneuver just as much as a military ploy. After all, a new and different situation has been created in Lebanon and the Americans are present there today. This is a change in the Middle East.

We cannot forget that the Syrians, moreover, planned a military operation scheduled for last summer that was to have been activated together with PLO activity in Lebanon. Only today can we tell how serious this was, having studied the PLO issue very thoroughly in Lebanon, and only now can we comprehend how grave this was. Perhaps this is part of the matter. One must also note that even though the Soviets have never stationed these missiles outside the boundaries of the Soviet Union, in the last year preparations were made to position such missiles in other places as well. This was done in Mongolia, where similar bases were erected, and a similar camp was set up in the GDR as well. So we cannot easily now determine what the immediate reason was for this, but I think this is a combination of all these reasons together.

[Question] Mr Minister, do you mean to say that bases were built and moreover missiles were stationed there? In Mongolia and the GDR?

[Answer] No. Bases were built, but here too the missiles have not yet been stationed, although we know that some of the missiles are on their way. The fact nevertheless remains that missile bases were constructed.

[Question] Mr Defense Minister, I would like to move now to the course of the negotiations with Lebanon. Various circles in the public have been accusing you of misleading and defrauding them in regard to the state of the talks with Lebanon. You explicitly mentioned a breakthrough, and granted an extensive interview on this. Now, however, we are in a situation where we do not even have an agreed-upon agenda for the talks. How so?

[Answer] I would not like to refer to the issue of misinformation and the like. When I hear this I can only smirk. I would say that jealousy, the internal competition both in political circles and in the media have, in my opinion, reached the point of anarchy.

And when I say anarchy, if you will pardon me, I am not exaggerating and it may possibly be a good thing that someone spells things out in the open. I believe we certainly made progress. We are at the start of negotiations, and any negotiations are a difficult process. I can recall the negotiations with Egypt. Whatever is being discussed in the negotiations at present, beginning with the location of the talks and then the issues Israel demands [tova'at] be put on the agenda, as well as the article on ending the state of war -- all of these are the result of very prolonged contacts which I would not like to elaborate on, because after all one is always cornered: If it were possible to explain everything, everything would have been very clear, but then, of course, I would have been accused of disclosing matters. I will satisfy myself with only saying one thing: That none of the things we have done to date was done for nothing, in vain. We have difficulties, stemming primarily from the shift from a state of confidential, secret talks to the phase of open talks. We had such problems in the deliberations with Egypt, too.

[Question] But, Mr Minister, you talked about normalization and open borders, commercial ties. Yet, I repeat, there is still no agreed upon agenda for the talks. The argument is over "normalization."

[Answer] That is correct, the argument is over normalization.

[Question] On the concept.

[Answer] True. I think a lot of things will be discussed, but I believe we would not even have gotten to the point of discussing normalization if we had not done what we did for a long period of time. At this point I would not like to be any more specific. I can withstand such arguments or others, and other points of ridicule. Ultimately, we will reach an agreement [heskem] with Lebanon in which security arrangements as well as normalization arrangements will be included. The normalization arrangements are an inseparable part of the security arrangements. Then people will comprehend things. I remember when other issues were being made fun of. I remember that one day, 5 years ago, I appeared on television and presented a settlement plan. Everyone ridiculed and made fun of me and attacked me, throwing stones and slinging mud, but what happened? In the final analysis the settlements were established. I say that a government -- and right now I am talking as a Cabinet member -- must have the strength to face the ridicule and the fun-poking and the talk, be steadfast and achieve what must be achieved. These things determine Israel's security and we would not like to go back to situations we were in previously. This is the first war, and I hope the last one, too, in which we have reached, or can reach, the final objective. Four times we went to war against Egypt, but we never obtained a strategic goal. Either there were no objectives, or we did not present them. Here we have a target, and if we insist on it, I think this could be the last war on our northern border, and can result in our no longer finding ourselves in circumstances we faced in the past, where there were terrorist acts along the northern border and the terrorists organized in Lebanon, threatening Jewish settlements in Eretz Yisra'el and other Jewish centers throughout the world, with Lebanon constituting a center of world terrorism.

We have the potential of reaching the goal. On this issue it is necessary to demonstrate some calm, a little patience. We must not anticipate the end and push things. It would be better to insist now than be forced to take action once again in the future.

[Question] Mr Minister, with your permission, nonetheless, I must ask you: You said that the document was reached with and agreed upon by authorative Lebanese representatives. Did you have President al-Jumayyil himself in mind. And how come, or how would you explain the fact, that the head of the Lebanese delegation to the talks refuses to accept the document you reached during your talks in Beirut?

[Answer] I would not like to go into any more detail on this subject. I am prepared to bear these doubts that are entertained by yourself and possibly also by others, and say only that the same paper we agreed upon is the paper that constitutes the entire basis for our contacts with Lebanon. I would prefer, or even recommend, that rather than act out of considerations of impatience, short vision, and a desire to stir up a political opposition, of occasional envy, I would suggest referring to what was achieved as something attained. After all, what do you actually want to achieve by incessantly claiming that nothing was achieved? If you wish to harm me personally, I think I will be able to face this. But when you try to undermine -- and that is yourself [addressing Scemama] and the media, although not all of it but part of it, and the opposition which, as on other issues, has been showing very little responsibility -- and try to come and say that in fact you agreed on nothing with the Lebanese, what achievements do you gain from this? What? This means that our starting position in the deliberations become weaker. Instead of standing together, united behind something that has been discussed and which I cannot tell you more about at this point, but believe me it was discussed with the most authoritative people, and was agreed upon [sukan], you should come and say -- as the Cabinet insists -- that this is the basis for the negotiations [as heard] As a result of other considerations, which I would say are totally irrelevant to the issue, the desire to harm is so enormous that Israel is going into negotiations at a starting point where we are beginning to cast doubt on something we have achieved. Perhaps you could explain what you are aiming at? Are you striving to hurt a person? A cabinet? What you are doing will not harm the Cabinet, which has already demonstrated steadfastness, nor myself. It is not a personal matter. What are you trying to do? [interrupted]

[Question] Mr Minister, you certainly cannot think that we wish to harm you. We have no such intention. But in press interviews, Mr Minister, you said you achieved a document, and we have no doubt that you actually did. My question was: How come the same document we obtained from Lebanon is today unacceptable to the Lebanese delegation? This is the question, with no other motivation.

[Answer] Generally, I did not mention documents in the interview. This, after all, is one of your methods: to repeat things that are incorrect over and over again until people begin to believe that they are true. On this matter I granted one interview, to MA'ARIV. If I am not mistaken, it was on 17 December. In that interview, I said that a breakthrough has been achieved, and did not say one more thing beyond this. I never granted any other interview. Yet after all you repeat things, this is your method of operation.

Now, what was achieved there is a fait accompli. At the moment there is no need to add anything more to it. What the head of the Lebanese delegation thinks or does not think is something I would not like to talk about right now. I can only tell you that there is no central figure in Lebanon today, including those at the top of the delegation, who are not aware of what lies at the foundation of the talks.

What you and the opposition are trying to do is simply to weaken Israel. The purpose is, of course, political and domestic, an attempt to score some achievement, such as the attempt -- very similar, I would say -- to create panic over the missiles, which is not to say that I am not taking them seriously. Again it is an attempt to try to pull the rug out from under our feet. Instead of standing all together, united behind something reached following extremely strained efforts, which is not the personal achievement of one person or another but an achievement of Israel -- in general, there are no personal achievements here. Instead of standing together, what do you say? You do harm, by saying that this does not exist, it is not true, why else would the Lebanese argue that it is nonexistent?

Lebanon has problems, ones that cannot be ignored, and they are complicated. It has domestic problems, and there are Muslims and Christians there. What was achieved is the basis for Israel's position, and whatever takes place now is founded on it. I would suggest once again to all of us to unite around things we have achieved rather than try to undermine them.

[Question] The only thing I would like to point out, Mr Minister, is that after all it is only legitimate to ask questions, which is what we do on this program.

[Answer] By the same token, it is likewise legitimate to provide answers, too.

[Question] But if we go back to things you have just said, that there is no one in Lebanon that denies or does not know what the document says, it was reported -- and I do not know whether this came from you or not -- that the normalization clause is one of the central clauses in the document you reached with the Lebanese authorities. The question still remains, then, why the Lebanese are denying it, and are revoking their previous agreement?

[Answer] I never said there was no one in Lebanon who did not know about it. I am talking about the delegation and its leaders, the leaders of the delegations or the administration leaders. Gentlemen, Lebanon is facing problems. The most bitter problems right now are the shift from a state of secrecy to openness, and this is beyond additional objective problems in Lebanon. One must insist on such things. We know exactly what we discussed, and it is not accidental that the clause appears there, just as there is no coincidence that there is an article mentioning ending the state of war. This, too, is a clause that appears there. One must simply show patience, not push. It is necessary to conduct the negotiations, and it is preferable to insist on things now than to reach an agreement [heskem] that would not provide a solution to the problems that exist in Lebanon -- from our point of view.

[Question] Mr Defense Minister, I would like to go on to the role you foresee for the United States. It seems to me that the views differ in the Cabinet on the U.S. role in the talks with Lebanon, with Foreign Minister Shamir believing that the Americans have a valuable and useful [mo'il] role, whereas you say or think that if the Americans wanted it, peace with Lebanon would have been reached sooner. Is the United States not interested in achieving peace in Lebanon quickly?

[Answer] I have been aware of this distinction being drawn -- and usually this occurs on Sundays, following the Cabinet session, and on other occasions as well -- presenting some as lovers of the United States, and others as opponents.

I would like to say that I have heard this. Besides laughing, I can simply do nothing. I cannot but scorn this. Is there, after all, any one among us who regards the United States as an enemy? I do not regard the United States as a foe. Does anyone view the United States as an enemy or an opponent? God forbid. Do I? Certain differences of opinion exist. The question is not whether someone is the opponent of the United States, but whether we, who have disputes with the United States -- and we do -- should insist on our position. A small country like ours still has an ability to withstand when it is presented with plans and actions which run counter to its interests, in its opinion. It has the right to insist on its own, or must it accept anything? In my opinion, even a small country can accept [as heard].

Let me prove this by giving you the example of aid. There was an increase in aid, there was an increase in the aid grant. Relations between countries are not harmed when a country guards its rights. There is no adversary attitude toward the United States. The United States is our ally. This is how the people of Israel view it, how the Israeli Government views it, and how I view it as both a citizen of Israel and member of the Cabinet. There is no difference in the approach of ministers toward the United States. We all view the United States as a friend. At the same time, there are certainly differences of approach.

In my opinion, the United States, which appears everywhere in the world as the advocator of peace, should and can contribute its influence to reinforcing the intention of reaching peace in Lebanon. This peace in Lebanon, our security arrangements and normalization as a first step toward peace, this situation serves the U.S. interests no less than it serves ours. Therefore, it is necessary to convince and explain, to explain time and again. The gravest thing which could happen to us, in my opinion, is that we would give up in advance each one of our positions on the issues fatal for the existence of Israel, as a result of our dependence on the United States, our economic and other dependence on the United States as we all surely know. This, in my opinion, is impossible. One should find the way to oppose, when the matter harms us in our opinion, and at the same time to live together as we should.

[Question] Mr Sharon, let us return to Lebanon, to the campaign whose end is still invisible, to our regret. Not a single day passes without some of our soldiers in Lebanon being harmed; we have soldiers killed and wounded in all sectors there. The question many people ask themselves is whether we have not been entangled in a prolonged and hard war of attrition in Lebanon, with no end in sight.

[Answer] We are all parents, and I treat our soldiers as my sons. Each one of us feels pain when a soldier is harmed. It is painful when someone is wounded, and it is ten times more painful when someone is killed. We know that there is no consolation, that there is no compensation for the loss of human lives. This matter is dear to the hearts of all of us. At the same time, the attempt to repeat that we find ourselves in a war of attrition now -- is it similar to the war of attrition we faced in the Suez Canal? This is not such a war, this is something else. I am not justifying incidents: Every victim is definitely a victim. However, what would you expect? Would you expect us today, as a result of the casualties, this most painful thing, to give up the possibility of solving one of the hardest problems Israel has ever faced? My answer to this is an absolute no, under no circumstances. One should withstand things. I would suggest that the public perhaps learn from the IDF's ability to withstand, from the patience and tolerance which the IDF demonstrates on its front lines in Lebanon. We have, I would say, an extraordinary army which is making extraordinary efforts. I would suggest that we look to it and maybe learn from its patience a little.

[Question] I think that both in the IDF and in the civilian sector people ask how long matters will last.

[Answer] First, we always look at what is happening at present. We do not see what happened in the past. I can repeat that I remember hard days during the war of independence, very hard days. Then too, there were different voices in the public. I remember the voices heard during the war of attrition. However, there was one thing then; what is happening today did not happen then. The opposition was in power then, and during their term in power the same things happened -- we faced hard wars of attrition in the past after all; we faced a war of attrition on the Suez Canal front in order to reach peace with Egypt, and we reached peace with Egypt indeed -- but it was the practice then, also by the communications media, to give these issues a much lower profile. The opposition then surely conducted itself as a responsible opposition. This situation has changed. In my opinion, as far as this is concerned we have reached a degree of irresponsibility. I used the word lawlessness before and I can only repeat it. I think that on this issue there is no choice but to exercise patience, and I suggest to you too, contribute your part in presenting matters in such a way which will enable Israel to achieve what it should achieve. What does Israel want to achieve? Israel wants to achieve security, Israel wants to achieve peace, and for this we should reveal an ability to withstand. If we question ourselves every day, we will not attain anything. We have the power to achieve things.

[Question] Mr Minister, you certainly follow the spirits and moods among the IDF soldiers in Lebanon, and especially in the Ash-Shuf mountains. What is your impression, how would you define the morale of the IDF soldiers in Lebanon?

[Answer] Look, if I had to define it according to the plan you presented, I could have gotten a hard [illegible] impression. Allow me to tell you, I think this is one of the gravest things anybody ever did in focusing attention on one song sung by soldiers [reference to IDF soldiers singing that due to Ari'el Sharon they will return to Israel in coffins]. Have you heard other songs? There may be other songs, after all. Have you ever tried to follow songs sung during the war of independence, the war of attrition, other wars? Have you ever tried to give a full picture? This belongs with the same lawlessness I spoke of.

[Question] Did you get a different impression from the moods of the soldiers?

[Answer] I am saying that there are different kinds of moods. There is no doubt it was not easy to sit there. However, to come and present this matter before the entire people in Israel as you did? -- I think this is again one of the examples of how the power of the people is eroded, how one takes a people with the ability to withstand, people who have for tens of years succeeded in building, establishing, creating things, settling, fighting and defending, and in a truly planned manner an attempt is made to cut their power off. I rely on our people. I rely on us not to be blinded by this or that report.

This is not to say that there are no problems. No, problems do exist. It is not easy to be there, it is difficult to be there. But the army, in my opinion, is displaying the best manners. If there is anything that could be taken as an example and could be respected and admired, it would be the soldiers' conduct. However, I would under no circumstances say that there is no criticism or dismay among the soldiers over the need to stay in Lebanon. Certainly there is.

this nation -- and this army is part of the people and can hear and read things -- is not having an easy time. It has problems. But can we give up our stay in that place? The question is whether or not it is possible to give up our stay today before reaching security arrangements.

[Question] But there are some ministers who would advocate this.

[Answer] I beg your pardon?

[Question] There are some Cabinet members who are prepared to give this up?

[Second question] There has also been the suggestion in the Cabinet that the IDF should reduce its forces in the Ash-Shuf hills, if I read the announcements issued after the Cabinet session correctly?

[Answer] I would like to remind you, as I am not sure that the entire public is familiar with the issue of the Ash-Shuf hills. Perhaps I should try to explain this matter. [Sharon points to a map] For the sake of orientation, this is Beirut, and this is Damascus. This is the borderline between Lebanon and Syria, and here is Israel's northern border. Here is Metulla.

[Question] Mr Minister, if you would only care to limit your explanation, seeming that our time is running short.

[Answer] The blue line is the line along which our forces are presently stationed. The Ash-Shuf area is the one here, where I am pointing, in the area of 'Alayh. Incidentially, it would be worthwhile to mention the green line. The green line is the one showing the 45 to 50-km strip of the security zone we have been talking about. It is very interesting to look, and I try to recall how much this Cabinet's blood was spilled over the business of the distance the IDF progressed beyond that line. Since I happen to have this map at hand right now, it would be beneficial to point this out. There are places where we did not reach the 45-km line, there are others where we are on the 45-km line, and there are still other points where we are stationed 3 km away from the line, or 7 km from it. There is one place where we are stationed 13 km beyond it. This is after all the distance that can be advanced beyond what is considered to be a matter of national consensus.

The area which we are in today is the territory overlooking and controlling the Beirut-Damascus highway. If we withdraw from it today, Israel will not be in a position to reach the same kind of security arrangements it strives to reach in Lebanon. This is why these suggestions are being raised, just like any other suggestion. I have no idea who puts them forward, who voices them, but the place where suggestions should properly be raised is during Cabinet sessions. It is in Cabinet sessions where decisions are made, as everyone knows, by the rule of majority versus minority. The government is steadfast and determined to remain in the positions it is in today until it manages to reach the agreement it is seeking. This is its job, its responsibility, and this is the way to behave.

[Question] Mr Minister, I would like to ask something about our prisoners, who are currently interned. Is there any progress in the contacts toward the release of the prisoners held by the PLO?

[Answer] We have prisoners, missing in action whom we believe are still alive, held by the Syrians. We also have dead. We have undertaken all action, everything conceivably possible, to bring about the release of our prisoners.

The Cabinet made it clear in its plan, in an unambiguous manner, that no withdrawal involving even 1 meter would take place in Lebanon before we get all the prisoners back -- both those held by the Syrians and those held by the PLO — as well as all the missing and the bodies of our victims. We have made this clear in an unequivocal manner, and I believe we will live to see the day where we will see them home as soon as possible.

[Question] Has any progress been made in the specific contacts?

[Answer] This is the kind of thing that is not discussed over the media. I can only say that on this issue the Cabinet is doing everything it can.

[Question] Mr Minister, with your permission let me pose a question to you on a completely different matter: In about 3 months, Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan ends his term as chief of staff. Have you already decided who will replace the chief of staff?

[Answer] The chief of staff is ending 5 years of service. It seems to me this is the longest period of service a chief of staff has ever fulfilled. I think he is an extraordinary chief of staff. I think we have an extraordinary army with excellent commanders. This issue has not been concluded yet. This matter needs to be concluded and brought before the Cabinet, as is customary in such cases.

[Question] Have you got a proposal? Have you got a candidate of your own?

[Answer] This is not a problem of a candidate of my own. Luckily, we have such a good army that we can find candidates in it. Our problem, and this is a hard one sometimes, is how to select a candidate from among all the good potential candidates. We have no problem. The IDF has given rise to commanders in all its branches and forces which can continue and fill the most key positions with the same degree of success and the same degree of talent.

[Question] You still have to recommend a candidate. The question is when will you reach a decision and who will be your candidate.

[Answer] There is a planned timetable for this, and it will be carried out. There is no need to fear that the IDF will remain without a chief of staff or that the State of Israel will remain without the best commanders. Fortunately we have an extraordinary army from whose ranks it is possible to select the best possible team which is characterized, I would say, by brilliant military thought, by courage, by the ability to lead forces. The people of Israel certainly have something to rely on.

[Question] In conclusion, Mr Defense Minister, very harsh criticism is leveled at you. You mentioned it in the course of this program. This is criticism within the Cabinet, as we understand, as well as outside it. Can you explain to yourself, do you give an account to yourself, of why you feature in the center of this criticism, at the heart of this public crossfire which is directed at you?

[Answer] Maybe because I stand, maybe because I stand on my own. I believe one should stand on his own. When you believe in something it is necessary to struggle for it, to stand firm, and I stand firm. When I believe in a certain thing I struggle for it. This is how I have behaved all through the years. This is how I have conducted myself during my IDF service and how I have conducted myself as a Cabinet member. It is not easy. I admit it is not easy. It is easy for people who do not stand firm. I am standing firm, and, in my opinion, it is not only I who should stand firm but all of us. If we stand firm we will succeed in achieving everything we want.

MILITARY SOURCES ON SOVIET MISSILES, U.S. ANGLE

TA051613 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] Senior military sources say that Israel has an answer for the Soviet SAM-5 which the Soviet Union is supplying to Syria, and that Israel possesses information about this missile. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the military sources believe that the IDF need not change its moves due to the positioning of the missiles. The sources also believe that missiles in Syria whose range is over 240 km constitute a threat also to the U.S. aircraft which take off and land on the Sixth Fleet aircraft carriers in the Mediterranean. Our military correspondent has learned that the Americans are concerned about the stationing of these missiles, since they fear they will be manned by Soviet teams and will constitute a real threat in the Mediterranean area, from which they had previously been absent.

ISRAELI-PLO TALKS ON POW'S CONTINUE IN PARIS

TA051215 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 5 Jan 83 p 1

['Exclusive' report by French correspondent Gid'on Kutz]

[Text] Paris -- The contacts for exchanging prisoners between Israel and the PLO continued this week in a European capital. Following the reports in the media last week about the negotiations held between As-Sartawi and Eli'av in Vienna the talks were transferred to a different capital.

MENAHEM BEGIN TO VISIT U.S. MIDDLE FEBRUARY

TA051217 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 5 Jan 83 p 1

['Exclusive' report by U.S. correspondent Yosef Pri'el]

[Text] Washington -- Prime Minister Menahem Begin will come to Washington in the middle of February, this was decided in the last few days.

The visit of the prime minister was stopped last month because of the death of his wife 'Aliza. The U.S. Administration asked that the prime minister come at the end of January but because of the proximity of the visit to Navon's visit it was decided to postpone Begin's visit. The U.S. Administration hopes that by then King Husayn will have given his answer about joining the peace process thus forcing Prime Minister Begin to withstand U.S. pressure to accept the Reagan plan as a basis for negotiations with Jordan and the Palestinians.

## ALGERIA

### NIGER'S KOUNTCHE IN ALGIERS SIGNS BORDER ACCORD

AB052202 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Excerpt] President Seyni Kountche arrive in Algiers this morning on a friendly, working visit. In the Algerian capital, Head of State and President Chadli Bendjedid assessed bilateral relations and later signed the Niger-Algeria convention on border demarcation. They also examined the situation in Africa, in particular the OAU crisis. Our special correspondent Mohamed Ly files this report:

President Seyni Kountche was received on arrival at the airport of Algiers by Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. My visit is aimed at further strengthening the broad relations of good neighborliness and fruitful cooperation between our two countries, President Kountche stated. As a matter of fact, Niger and Algeria, which hold the view that the development of their bilateral relations is essentially based on mutual respect, territorial integrity and the intangibility of the borders inherited from the colonial administration, have naturally maintained relations of good neighborliness. A (?convention) has been designed to facilitate the demarcation of their common borders. The legal document of that convention was signed this afternoon by President Seyni Kountche and Chadli Bendjedid at the People's Palace in Algiers in the presence of the two delegations. The signing of the document was coupled with a joint communique, which we expect to be published.

### LEBANON'S QULAYLAT, DELEGATION ARRIVE 5 JANUARY

NC051840 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Brother Ibrahim Qulaylat, the leader of the Independent Nasirite Movement -- Al-Murabitun, arrived in Algiers at noon today. He is accompanied by a delegation of the movement's command, including Brother Dr Hashim al-Ayyubi, Muhammad Qulaylat, Dr Samih ash-Shafi'i, Dr Mustafa Sa'adah and Dr Mustafa al-Qujuk. The visit is in response to an official invitation from the party and the state.

## LIBYA

### PAPER NOTES GREEK CRITICISM OF U.S. AIR BASE

PM051655 London AL-ZAHAF AL-AKHDAR in English 24 Dec 82 p 3

[Unattributed article: "Greece To Close Libya-Targeted Spy Base]

[Excerpts] The socialist government in Greece wants to close an American air base in Greece which it says is not being used for NATO-related purposes, but for spying on non-NATO countries, particularly Libya.

The Hellenikon Air Base, on the eastern outskirts of Athens, was established by the Americans under a 1953 agreement which allowed the U.S. to set up four bases in the country as staging and supply posts for NATO and U.S. air and naval forces. The three other bases involved are Nea Makri, north-east of Athens, and Heraklion and Souda Bay in Crete.

The Greek Government says that the Hellenikon base should be closed down because it is being used for the unauthorised surveillance of countries not in the Warsaw Pact which are friendly to Greece.

There is no doubt that the country the Greeks are particularly thinking about is Libya. Just as Greco-Libyan relations have been steadily improving since Andreas Papandreou's government came to power over a year ago, relations between Greece and the United States have been deteriorating.

America's insistence on threatening Libya from bases in Greece and elsewhere in the Mediterranean is one of the main reasons for this deterioration in relations. Furthermore Greece has been unusually outspoken for a European country in its support of the Palestinian resistance and in its condemnation of the Israel invasion of Lebanon. But some move towards the imposition of greater control over U.S. bases in Greece or even toward their expulsion has been inevitable since last January 31st, when U.S. Navy planes 'buzzed' a Libyan airliner inside Greek airspace. The fact that the planes came from a carrier and not from a Greek base was irrelevant, for the incident showed how far the Americans were willing to go to prosecute their aggression against Libya.

Spy Plane Shot Down

The fact that the Americans do send spy planes to overfly Libya was proved later in the year when, on September 2d, Libya shot down an American reconnaissance aircraft over the Benghazi Region. The point of embarkation of this aircraft has never been revealed, indeed the Americans still deny the whole incident, but it showed that the U.S. sends spy planes over Libya on a regular basis. In fact, for over two years, planes like the U.S. Air Force's EC-135 electronic intelligence gatherers have been regularly intercepted by Libyan fighters snooping around Libya's coasts. These planes are known to operate out of Hellenikon, hence the Greek Government's concern.

Another type of plane operated out of Hellenikon is the U-2 spy plane, made famous by the incident in which a plane of this type was shot down over the USSR in 1960. The Greeks say that only ten per cent of the U-2 activity out of the Hellenikon base is directed towards the Balkan countries to the north which are NATO's traditional local area of interest. Greek officials say that the rest of the time the U-2's fly reconnaissance missions over countries like Libya. The Greek Government maintains that such activity is a breach of the 1953 agreement on the use of the bases and that it has never been authorised by Greece. The spy flights began, the Greeks say, during the fascists military dictatorship which lasted from 1967 until 1974.

The Americans have confirmed that Hellenikon is used for spy flights, as well as for communications, logistic support and for use by transiting strategic airlift aircraft. Thus quite apart from its use as a base for spying activities against Libya and other non-Warsaw Pact states, Hellenikon could well be earmarked for use by the Rapid Deployment Force in an emergency.

Targeting Libya

The Italian Peace Movement, which is at present leading a peace march from Milan to Comiso in which even members of religious orders are taking part, says that the cruise missiles are being targeted on Arab countries, Libya amongst them. They say that the missiles' location at the southern tip of Italy demonstrates that they are meant to serve U.S. policy in the Middle East, not in Europe.

It seems that the Italian Government is worried about this and has requested some clarification from the Americans on the matter. Given the Italians' increased role in the Middle East, with their presence in Lebanon which could well be enlarged in the future, the Americans are anxious not to offend them. On top of worries about the planned cruise missile base at Comiso, the U.S. is also bracing itself for a fight with the new Spanish Government about U.S. bases there.

Again, like the Greeks, the Spanish are worried about the implications of the U.S. using their bases in Spain to support American 'interests' in the Middle East, where Spain has many friendships with Arab states, Libya again included.

## MOROCCO

### ARAB, JERUSALEM COMMITTEES TO MEET 20 JAN

LD041512 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1420 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Riyadh, 4 Jan (SPA) -- The newspaper AL-MASA'IYAH said today that a joint meeting of the seven-member committee and the Jerusalem Committee will be held in Marrakech on 20 January [as received] under King Hasan II of Morocco, King Husayn of Jordan and Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. The newspaper reported that Palestinian sources said that the Jerusalem Committee will hear from the Moroccan king on the results of the Fes summit and the contacts carried out by the seven-member committee in the capitals of the permanent members of the Security Council, and will also discuss the problem of Lebanon, Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and the means of putting pressure on foreign states in order to facilitate the implementation of the Fes summit resolutions on the Middle East.

The sources confirmed that the PLO will demand that the issue of support for the Palestinian people's steadfastness in the occupied Arab territories be included on the agenda of the committee. The Palestinian sources expect the committee to recommend to the Islamic conference the adoption of the Arab peace plan. As is known, the Jerusalem Committee led by the Moroccan king includes Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, the PLO, Pakistan, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Senegal, Guinea, and Niger.

The sources added that the three leaders will hold closed meetings on the sidelines to discuss the latest developments in the Middle East crisis, the nature of the coming stage, in addition to the evaluation of the moves by the seven-member committee with the aim of stimulating the efforts aimed at achieving a just peace in the Middle East.

## SUDAN

### INTERIOR MINISTER ON PALESTINIANS, ECONOMY

PM051637 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 3 Jan 83 p 1

[Interior Minister Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman Muhammad interview with Talhah Jibril in Casablanca "during recent Arab interior ministers conference"]

[Excerpts] Sudanese Interior Minister Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman Muhammad said that "elements with foreign ties -- leftists, Ba'thists and Nasirites -- have tried to exploit the recent students demonstrations in Khartoum over the economic situation."

In his statement to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, the minister held the IMF responsible for the disturbances, because of its inability to save the Sudanese economy, and called on world economic organizations "to look for better ways to enable citizens in Third World countries to enjoy the minimum requirements of a dignified life."

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT met with the Sudanese minister during the recent conference of Arab interior ministers held in Casablanca and asked him about the decisions taken in the Arab countries regarding the position of the Palestinians. He said:

In accordance with its positive policy toward the Palestine problem Sudan has normally dealt with the Palestinians in a fraternal manner free of much red tape. In fact Sudan has not received large numbers of Palestinians except after the events in Lebanon, when we received 2,000 fighters who were welcome on both the official and pupular levels. Everybody is trying to facilitate life for those fighters, and there has been no problem integrating the Palestinian brothers in Sudan. But this, in our view, is not enough. Sudan, like other Arab countries, must revise its laws and policy regarding employment and transfer of manpower whereby the Palestinian will be able to live a dignified life during his stay in any Arab country. By virtue of the fact that it plays host to a large number of brothers forced by conditions beyond their control to leave their homelands, whether in Uganda, Ethiopia, Eritrea, or Chad, Sudan is obliged to recognize the papers of a refugee and treat them as a passport. With regard to the Palestinian, the right to work and to reside is upheld by official policy and popular acceptance among the citizens. This was evident in the fact that Sudan was the first country to invite the fighters to stay there.

The minister added: We are now making the necessary arrangements to enable the Palestinians who came to Sudan not only to obtain passports but also to live in dignity. At the beginning the Palestinians lived in the town of Shindi and felt that they did not have sufficient living amenities for their families. Through understanding with them, it was agreed to find them more suitable places. As soon as the facilities for their stay are made available they will move to Erkowit, an area with an excellent climate. Recently I met with some of the fighters' commanders, and they expressed to me their happiness with the conditions of their stay in Sudan.

When asked about the recent disturbances in Sudan, he replied:

Sudan is suffering from economic difficulties relating to deficit in the balance of payment. Usually the government annually adopts policies and internal measures in the economic field with the aim of dealing with the economic situation. But this had no tangible effect in a country whose citizens look toward a high standard of living similar to that enjoyed by other citizens in the world in general and in the area in particular. It is unfortunate that the citizens' endeavor to work in the various fields in order to increase production did not achieve much success, particularly in a country with great potential in the agricultural field. The availability of job opportunities abroad, especially in the Gulf countries, and tempting wages have lost Sudan a large number of highly qualified administrators and technicians, all of which has led to failure in the economy.

During the negotiations with the IMF, there were some student demonstrations as an expression of dissatisfaction with the increasing living costs and, because students are more sensitive than others, it was expected that they would express their dissatisfaction with the economic pressures, particularly those that will affect the lower classes of citizens.

These demonstrations were limited, but some elements with foreign ties -- leftists, Ba'thists and Nasirites -- like all political elements, sought to exploit the situation to show opposition to the regime. A limited number of the demonstrators who sought to commit sabotage and were not satisfied with peacefully expressing their views were arrested.

In Sudan the staging of demonstrations is not surprising so far as the government's policy is concerned, for this is considered a high sign, though it is hoped that they remain within reason and the law.

NUMAYRI INVITED TO DELHI NONALIGNED SUMMIT

JN041559 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 4 Jan (SUNA) -- Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak received an invitation addressed to President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri from Indian Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi to attend the seventh summit conference of the nonaligned countries, which is due to convene in New Delhi on 7 March. The invitation was conveyed to the foreign minister yesterday during a meeting with the Indian ambassador in Khartoum.

## TUNISIA

FOREIGN MINISTER GIVES BOURGUIBA NEW YEAR SPEECH

LD051800 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] At an official ceremony held at 1000 today at the Republican Palace in Carthage, President Habib Bourguiba accepted New Year congratulations from members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Tunisia headed by Ahmad al-Hamad, Kuwaiti ambassador to Tunisia and dean of the diplomatic corps.

The audience was attended by Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali, the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, members of the government and the Political Bureau and senior state officials.

Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi delivered the speech of the great struggler by which President Habib Bourguiba addressed himself to the kings and presidents of the fraternal and friendly countries. He thanked them for their solidarity with Tunisia during the hard times it suffered as a result of the floods that swept certain parts of the republic.

The speech reviewed the situation on the domestic, African, Arab and international fields. On Tunisia's domestic policy, President Bourguiba recalled that the past year in our country was characterized by the start of the implementation of the sixth 5-year development plan amid conditions of scarcity of internal resources and of inflation and recession in the external world economy. The president expressed his hope that the new year will witness the beginning of the regaining of control over the development process, thanks to the rallying by the human resources in the country around common basic options and also thanks to the help of the brothers and friends abroad.

President Bourguiba then condemned the policy of aggression pursued by Israel in defiance of the world community. During the past year it pursued the destitute Palestinian people within their camps, trying to annihilate them with the most horrible massacres in modern history. Israel did not hesitate to invade a fraternal Arab country and member of the United Nations in order to expand further its domination over the entire Middle East region.

The president praised the results of the Fes conference which proved the Arabs' desire for a just peace in the Middle East and the rebuilding of the Arab ranks on the basis agreed by the countries participating in the conference and which won side support from the Arab countries as well as from other countries.

The importance of the Fes peace plan lies in its adoption of principles derived from the principles (?of human rights) previously approved by the entire world community and in its adherence to the scientific process that can insure the implementation of these principles. He affirmed that the plan deserves the unanimous support of the world and the rallying of efforts for its implementation. This is because it surpasses other proposed plans in that it embraces all details of the problem and aims at finding a radical solution for it on the basis of a just settlement of the Palestinian question, which is the essence of the Arab-Israeli conflict, which would enable the struggling Palestinian people under their organization to retrieve their usurped rights to self-determination and the establishment of an independent state in their own land.

The president of the Republic of Tunisia also spoke of the Iraqi-Iranian conflict, affirming that the only basis for solving this conflict lies in resorting to international legitimacy so that it may be stopped as soon as possible and so that it does not worsen and thereby drag the area into complications of untold consequence, as in the case of Afghanistan.

As to the crisis into which the OAU has fallen, President Bourguiba called for overcoming the problem and for enabling the organization to resume its duties and thus continue as a factor of fraternity and solidarity.

The president also spoke of the dialogue between the developing and industrialized countries, pointing out that the leaders of the developing countries and the industrialized countries alike feel the gravity of the challenges facing the world because of the rupture of relations between mankind's two opposing sides. He said that a strong will is needed to continue the dialogue with a spirit of solidarity, which is the only way through which some of us will offer the necessary concessions needed for the coordination of equal and balanced economic relations leading to stronger understanding among countries and solidarity among peoples.

The Kuwaiti ambassador, in his capacity as dean of the diplomatic corps, earlier delivered a speech in which he expressed his utmost pleasure at having this opportunity to convey on his own behalf and that of the heads of the diplomatic missions in Tunisia his congratulations to the president of the republic, wishing him long life and prosperity for the Tunisian people.

He praised the extensive progress Tunisia is witnessing under the leadership of the great struggler Habib Bourguiba and the government of Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali. He also praised the great efforts exerted by the Tunisian president in the domestic and foreign policy fields as well as in the Arab and African fields. Tunisia's voice, which calls for peace and respect for international sovereignty, now resounds in all international conferences and forums. He recalled in this respect the honorable stands of the great struggler at the Fes conference, his attempts to save the OAU and his courageous embracing of the Palestinian leadership.

In conclusion, the ambassador expressed the support of his country and the other diplomatic missions in Tunisia for our country in its flood ordeal. He reiterated his congratulations to the great struggler on the new year, wishing him happiness, prosperity and success.

## BENIN

### PRESIDENT KEREKOU'S NEW YEAR SPEECH 4 JAN

AB050957 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Speech by President Kerekou on the occasion of the presentation of New Year's wishes by constituted bodies in Cotonou on 4 January -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Comrades and members of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin, comrade members of the Permanent Committee of the Revolutionary National Assembly, Comrade President of the Central People's Court, Comrade Attorney General, Comrade members of the National Executive Council, Your Excellencies the members of the diplomatic corps, Your Excellencies the representatives of international organizations, comrade members of the delegations of the institutions and the constituted bodies, militants of the Beninese revolution: Life is a struggle, says a popular proverb. Today, there is no doubt that the entire hardworking people of our country, the People's Republic of Benin, have been able to analyze extensively the deep meaning and the real dimension of this historic truth during the first decade or our just and exciting revolutionary struggle of national liberation launched on 26 October 1972. This is why we warmly appreciate -- with joy and emotion -- the warm, enthusiastic, hopeful and militant new year wishes which Comrade Romain Villon Guezo, speaker of the Permanent Committee of the Revolutionary National Assembly, has just presented to us on behalf of the institutions and the constituted bodies of our revolutionary state. In return, we would like to thank him sincerely and, through him, the entire Beninese people highly represented in this hall, the Hall of Arts and Culture, by you, comrade members of the delegations of the institutions and the constituted bodies of our country, the People's Republic of Benin. We have noted with satisfaction your renewed pledge for revolutionary commitment as well the permanent availability of our people, our party and our revolutionary state, clearly expressed by Comrade Villion Guezo, spokesman for the delegations of the institutions and constituted bodies of the entire nation.

Although the praiseworthy efforts courageously and selflessly made by our hard-working people enabled us to avoid a worse economic stagnation, it is still true that our national growth is being dangerously threatened by the international economic crisis now violently shaking up the entire world. It was because our revolutionary party and state were fully aware of this serious reality that we decided -- during the joint session of the party's Central Committee and the National Executive Council held from 19 to 22 April 1982 -- to take energetic measures aimed at ensuring a spectacular readjustment and redress. The purpose of these measures was to ensure greater effectiveness of our national political orientation to enable us to build an independent and prosperous national economy. Now that new and adequate commissions have been created, we hope that the bases of our national economy will be consolidated and strengthened so that they may be able to resist more effectively the evil effects of this difficult international economic situation.

In the social field the year 1982 was marked by the vigorous pursuit of our orientations with a view to further improving the conditions of life of the popular masses in our cities and villages. To this end, our party and our revolutionary state spared no efforts to overcome all obstacles to the effective implementation of the general and particular statutes for the permanent agents of our revolutionary state. Yes, life is a struggle and you will realize it throughout our speech. Comrade members of the delegations of the institutions and constituted bodies, the (?great) results achieved and the undeniable gains recorded in favor of the Beninese revolution during the year 1982 should in no way justify any self-satisfaction on our part.

Therefore, as we are now entering the year 1983 as well as the second decade of our revolutionary process of national liberation launched on 26 October 1972, we must be particularly vigilant and attentive in every respect in order that we may be in a better position to understand and remedy the deficiencies which are dangerously militating against and compromising national production in quantity and quality and, consequently, the harmonious development of our country, the People's Republic of Benin. This is an appropriate place and time for me to publicly affirm once again that if the hard-working masses in our towns and rural areas in the name of whom and for whom the democratic and popular Beninese revolution was launched on 26 October 1972 are fully prepared and ready to execute correctly all the instructions and directives of our vanguard party and to accept great sacrifices. No one can deny today that many of our political and administrative cadres are increasingly, openly and arrogantly indulging in irresponsible social practices which are capable of seriously undermining the confidence of our militants for whom the revolution is and remains an authentic, pure and social revolution. It is therefore necessary that each of us should ask himself whether his social practices and his political will to actively and effectively act according to history are in accordance with the principles of the universal laws of the philosophy of Marxism-Leninism.

Henceforth, our revolutionary people, party and state must undertake within our political apparatus as well as our new revolutionary and democratic institutions a relentless struggle against all negative practices inspired by a petty bourgeois and neocolonialist liberalism. Similarly, our revolutionary people, party and state must undertake a relentless struggle against all the gravediggers of our national economy on which depends the realization of the noble objectives defined in our policy statement of 30 November 1972 as well as in our party's 10-point program. These are vital objectives which we must achieve at all costs during the second decade of our revolution.

But despite the very serious deficiencies we have just mentioned, we can affirm that after 10 years of a constant revolutionary struggle in our country, the hard-working masses of our towns and rural areas are competing in enthusiasm, patriotic zeal and sound rivalry as far as work is concerned and constantly demonstrate a remarkable revolutionary conviction and determination in all fields and at all levels of national activity. [applause]

## GUINEA

### SEKOU TOURE'S END OF YEAR SPEECH 31 DEC

AB032022 Conakry Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 31 Dec 82

[President Ahmed Sekou Toure's end of year speech in Conakry on 31 December -- live]

[Excerpts] (?By the grace of) our merciful God, people of Guinea, one year is ending, another is beginning: During the year which is about to end, the national party, the Guinean Democratic Party [PDG], was able to foil all maneuvers and traps by all kinds of enemies because of the internal and external policy of the central power. All plans of subversion and sabotage by those who have given up their dignity and their fatherland to serve as mercenaries against the popular regime of justice, equality and unity were foiled. It will be the same each time, whatever form the enemy takes, by the grace of God.

Concerning external policy in general, and African policy in particular, the activities of the PDG were all the more intense because hotbeds have been created or have persisted everywhere. Consequently, our country, which is always concerned at the highest level, acted and continues to act with the view to finding happy and peaceful solutions to these conflicts. It will always be so, especially in this particularly troubled phase in the life of our continental organization, the OAU.

People of Guinea, on your behalf, we in our capacity as chairman of the Islamic peace commission undertook repeated missions of mediation to Iran and Iraq, missions during which we always observed and defended the same principle. When war ruins human lives and destroys the economic heritage of two peoples, whether they belong to the same community or not, the duty of any conscious man, whether he is a responsible leader or an ordinary citizen, is to strive to find fair and lasting solutions to end this war. Considering that Iran and Iraq belong to the same Islamic ummah and share the same religious faith, after having measured the size and examined the multifaceted implications of the war, we believed that the search for a peaceful solution by the Islamic ummah would be the objective proof of the solidarity of the Muslim people and the radiance of Islam. Certainly, it is not possible for the peace committee to predict the exact date of the end of the fighting but the committee continues patiently and honestly to seek mutually acceptable conditions for the cease-fire and the restoration of peace in the region.

We made a recent series of visits to Asia, the Middle East and Egypt from 18 to 21 October where the Al Azar University conferred upon us, at the end of a solemn ceremony, an honorary doctorate. During these visits, we did not miss a single opportunity to draw the attention of our colleagues to the painful situation prevailing in the Middle East and the very serious danger in the division of Arab states in the face of the Palestinian problem which, since 1948, has not been solved fairly. Within the Nonaligned Movement we are not prepared to accept any compromise if this attitude should lead to a betrayal of the principles of the movement. Certainly the member countries of the Nonaligned Movement have chosen different social regimes but once they are built and structured objectively the differences are not divergences. Not only is it impossible to wipe away historical differences but these must constitute the enrichening of the capabilities for initiative in such a way that the movement benefiting from this diversity may be influential in the search for peace and the security of people in the world. We still consider that once must encourage political will concretized by action. We must never play the game of those who bear a grudge against the nonaligned countries or exclude them from the discussion of the great international problems, thus making them irresponsible on the world scene whereas they constitute at least two thirds of the member states of the United Nations.

At the second extraordinary session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament, we denounced with all the energy necessary the industry of death based on the practice of colonialism, racism and apartheid and the disregard for the legitimate voice of certain people on the earth because they are materially weak. On behalf of the Guinean people, we affirmed that disarmament was not only the affair of the affluent nations, the only governments possessing nuclear arms, but that of all people without exception, who are involved in the search for peace. It is not even a matter of being intelligent or even being afraid of war because in face fear is necessary. It is simply a matter of being lucid and human to realize that any policy based on so-called conventional nuclear, defensive and offensive military force is a serious threat to the security of all people of the world.

People of Guinea, in spite of their many crushing defeats, these enemies are not disarmed and they hardly despair. They persist in their dirty and ignoble activities of denigrating your regime, trying to intoxicate national and international opinion and to discourage those in the world who would like to cooperate economically with our country. Their efforts are wasted because the increased stability of your regime -- despite the criminal blows they are trying to deal it -- remains unshakeable and therefore guarantees a serene political and social climate favorable to private and public foreign investments.

On behalf of the Guinean state party, we undertook a mission to the United States and Canada in June 1982 and November 1982 respectively. During these missions, we had the opportunity to open in New York and in Montreal important seminars on Guinea's economy. With precision, we explained the line of Guinean cooperation with any foreign investor, the reciprocal and fruitful advantages in political serenity and the respect of freely made commitments. We also paid a state visit to the French Republic from 16 to 20 September 1982 at the invitation of Francois Mitterrand, president of the republic. The roots of the historical vicissitudes which marked relations between France and our country were examined on each occasion with serenity and in detail. It appeared that lack of understanding was the main cause for the obstacles to the establishment of normal relations between both countries, especially because through misinformation and intoxication, some small groups of Guinean traitors, hostile to the interests of both countries and living in France, have always attempted outrageously to perpetuate the divorce between France and Guinea. People of Guinea, on your behalf we pointed out to all our children living outside the country that the objective of our revolution is to take charge of all the nationals of the country wherever they may be if they express the desire. They must return to their country to contribute freely to its development. The doors of Guinea are open to all of them who would like to contribute to the development of the fatherland. As a result of the contacts we made and the discussions we had, the Guinean and French Governments and peoples intend henceforth to place cooperation on the path of wider understanding and mutual respect for the interests of the both parties in equality. Both parties had the courage to draw the lessons of history without bitterness and demonstrated the firm political will to normalize the relations between our two countries on new bases.

We also paid a visit to Canada at the invitation of the Federal Government of Canada from 1 to 5 November 1982. Everywhere we went, people of Guinea, we explained on your behalf with maximum clarity the economic views of our country and the philosophical and political principles which govern the relations of cooperation between our country and friendly countries. The future will tell us if this trip to Canada was a privileged moment for our traditional friendly relations with the country. But we can already assert that understanding was total.

In the African region, which is our privileged sphere of activity, Chad, Western Sahara, Namibia and apartheid were on our agenda and still retain all our attention. As you are aware, the brotherly people of Chad fell prey for more than 15 years to factional disputes which cost the lives of a great number of the citizens and simultaneously destroyed economic possessions as well as various national institutions. We arduously supported all the fair decisions made by the OAU.

In accordance with our party's ideology, we supported all efforts aimed at restoring peace and the constitution of a national assembly and a regular government. Only the people and the people alone are the guarantors of the legality and legitimacy of power because they are the source of power.

Our continental organization, the OAU, has experienced and is still experiencing a dangerous clogging of its organs because of the admission of the SDAR -- an absolutely irregular decision -- and the challenge of the present Chadian Government's right to participate in the OAU's sessions although Chad is a founding member of the organization. There is a lesson to be drawn from all historical dramas experienced by peoples and states. All people unanimously aspire for peace without any condition. No people in history have ever tolerated decisions made on their behalf, especially those concerning their destiny. History has never tolerated interventions imposing conditions capable of compromising a nation's efforts to conquer or reconquer its freedom and sovereignty. We are relatively well-placed to talk intelligently about the past. History is made up of significant events which justify what we have just said. In fact, all these developments are only aimed at paralyzing our continental organization which, besides, has no other means of perpetuating itself than the respect of its morality and charter. Our peoples are urgently calling on us to put an end to all negative subjectivity capable of endangering African unity. In any case, we have always stressed that imperfect as the OAU is, its founders have never imagined that its problems could be solved through radical and irreversible decisions because this is an organization comprising states with different political and social systems. The founders of the OAU never gave any thought to such idealism, and, as we have always affirmed, a bad organization is better than no organization at all. As a result of all these developments, Africa's economic and social problems have now been completely left aside.

Namibia's independence process has been deadlocked. The African people are continuing to experience the (?evil) consequences of this situation because of dissent within the OAU. South Africa is rejoicing [illegible] this and is stepping up its provocations and armed aggressions against Moza[illegible]e and Angola. It is intensifying its repressive actions against its black popu[illegible]tion and worsening international tension through its ridiculous obstinacy and systematic refusal to listen to reason.

As founding members of the OAU, we are prepared to firmly support the admission of South Africa into the OAU provided it definitively puts an end to racial discrimination, respects the equality of all its citizens, practises a sincere democracy in the operation of the political, economic, social and cultural institutions of the country, puts an end to the domination of Namibia and withdraws its troops from that country. The Republic of South Africa must realize that the brotherly people of Namibia are being unduly and illegally subjected to the yoke of colonialism despite the resolutions of the United Nations and the OAU and the condemnation of all the honest people of the world. At the beginning of this new year, we wish to recall that although some non-African countries are taking interest in Namibia's fate, it is first of all Africa's duty to assume the task of liberating that country.

Militants in uniform of the African democratic revolution: Despite the most subtle attempts to undermine your determination to defend the revolution, you have proved to the enemy that you form an army that is ever ready to defend the territorial integrity of your fatherland, Guinea, to safeguard the sovereignty of your people and to expel from your ranks all those whose behavior is contrary to your aim of protecting the revolution by defending it to the last drop of your blood. The proof is that all the criminal plans prepared in the context of the cynical program of the year now ending have been foiled. But vigilance is not a mere slogan. The enemy in the service of neocolonialism is planning to compromise the stability of our regime and to make attempts on the lives of your leaders during the year 1983.

It has cynically made promises to its treacherous financiers. It is therefore your duty to continue to give him the proof that mercenaries will never overcome an army which is not only welded to the people but is also a specialized part of the people.

## MALI

### PRESIDENT TRAORE'S NEW YEAR MESSAGE TO NATION

AB030748 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 1 Jan 83

[President Moussa Traore's New Year's message to the nation delivered in Bamako on 31 December -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Fellow countrymen, in a few moments another year will replace that which we have lived together and during which we all -- farmers, cattle breeders, workers in the cities and rural areas -- joined hands to face our trials and to build the nation. For 12 months we have always experienced together the moments of joy and of sorrow, of success and of failure. Before beginning this new year of 1983, we should, each at his own level, take stock of the action undertaken and the efforts made in the service of our country [words indistinct] in order that we may be better armed and to commit ourselves more resolutely to the tough fight for development.

The new year is indeed a time that one approaches pondering the past and the future. It has become customary to speak about the preoccupying subject of the economic crisis which has affected the world for some years now.

It is a fact that the stagnation of the world economic situation has increasingly worsened and that mankind has never been so economically [word indistinct] or so distressed. The danger is even much greater and much more serious for the developing countries. The party and government, in the specific case of our country, have been fully aware of the situation for a long time and have resolutely embarked on the struggle: the initiatives taken and the concrete actions already taken for the financing of our 1981-1985 5-year economic and social development plan.

As I announced in my message to the nation on 22 September, the meeting of donors on the economic recovery and development of Mali was held in Bamako from 11 to 16 December 1982. [Words indistinct] results of this important meeting, which was widely attended by friendly countries financial institutions and agencies and which discussed the targets and strategy of our 5-year plan, are fully satisfactory. As a matter of fact, this meeting of donors afforded us the opportunity to state directly to our partners our problems, our needs and our economic recovery and development policy. It also afforded us the opportunity to make them appreciate and share our current ideas and concerns.

At the end of the meeting, we were able to obtain considerable assistance as 60 percent of our financial need was met. The most important projects, whose execution is vital to our development, such as the Niger authority, the second cement factory, food strategy and the projects that are part of our food and energy policy were noted and a precise timetable was drawn up for their launching as soon as possible.

Besides the pledges, other important decisions were made. It was also decided to set up a standing committee for consultations between our country and some of our partners on the problems of food self-sufficiency and to organize quarterly meetings to be attended by all partners in order to review the implementation of the projects and to convene another donors conference in December 1984 in order to check the progress made in the implementation of the 5-year plan and to evaluate what remains to be done.

Fellow countrymen, the year now ending has been most trying for the peoples who still live under oppression, and who have taken up arms to regain their freedom and to force the enemy to recognize their fundamental national rights. In Namibia, in apartheid South Africa, in Palestine and elsewhere the heroic people have taken heavy [words indistinct]. The atrocious war imposed by the invading Israeli forces on the civilian [word indistinct] in Beirut, the odious massacres that were committed there, the aggression [words indistinct] the illegal racist regime of Pretoria. To those people so sorely tried but whom no brutal force, no undertaking of terror will force to give up their just struggle, we express our full solidarity and our unwavering support at the dawn of a new year which we hope will be full of victories and consolation for them.

## NIGERIA

### PRESIDENT SHAGARI'S NEW YEAR ADDRESS TO NATION

AB011150 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 1 Jan 83

[President Shehu Shagari's New Year's address to the nation -- live]

[Text] Fellow Nigerians: The year 1982 has now rolled up to an end, ushering in a new year of great expectations. It was a year characterized by serious economic and other problems the world over.

Consequently, this administration was constrained to take severe economic measures to protect the Nigerian economy from the worldwide phenomena of economic recession, unemployment, and inflation. These measures have helped to revamp the economy and curb unnecessary outflow of funds. The level of our imports has been substantially reduced with a promising prediction of a further drop in 1983. Appropriate steps have been taken to ensure the availability of essential raw materials for our industries, with particular emphasis on the encouragement of the use of local and raw materials.

The economic measures would have achieved higher results but for the very harmful effect of commodity smuggling, currency trafficking, corrupt practices, and false declarations and entries at our seaports and airports. More serious efforts will continue to be made concerning these nefarious activities in the new year. The perpetrators of these economic crimes, whether they are Nigerians or foreigners, will find the new year an uninteresting one. A national orientation committee has been set up to study and synthesize our ethical values and make recommendations to the government. When the recommendations are received and considered, all Nigerians will be called upon to rededicate themselves anew to those ennobling values and social ethos that have made our various communities in the past shiny examples of enduring virtues.

The declaration of assets by public officers and officeholders will be an essential aspect of category three orientation. The Nigerian Constitution provides for public probity by making it mandatory for public officers to declare their assets.

Although the enabling bill that sets this provision has still not been passed into law, it is morally incumbent upon all concerned to declare their assets. I have, therefore, directed those political officeholders appointed by me, who have not already done so, to submit to me a declaration of their assets within the next 6 weeks.

The incidence of abuse of public trust and the paucity of public probity in some (?causes) have been a serious cause of concern to me for some time now. The situation is even compounded by the absolute contempt in which diligence at work and honesty in public life are held. The reckless drive and urge for easy money and position does not speak well of our public ethics. Therefore, it is necessary that in the coming year we should resolve to do only those things that will elevate the Nigerian nation. We should strive to uphold and create a viable Nigerian personality portrayed by an unalloyed love for everything Nigerian: dedication to work, intellectual honesty, increased productivity, and the cultivation of the spirit of selfless public service.

The responsibility of making Nigeria a great and prosperous nation is ours and nobody else's. The mere wish of greatness does not create greatness. We must all work hard to create greatness for our nation by our actions in any station of life we are privileged to serve. This administration remains committed to improving the quality of life of all Nigerians, particularly the workers. We shall not relent in our efforts to ensure that government directives and guidelines on wages and salaries are fully implemented and that firm action is taken on the Onoshede as well as other commissions' reports. Similarly, the administration's housing, water, electricity, and green revolution programs will be pursued with greater vigor. As more and more arable land has now come under cultivation for food and crash crops and as [word indistinct] have increased under the program, we are fast approaching the day when the country will be self-sufficient in food supplies.

Qualitative education remains one of the top priorities of this government. The new policy on education continues to receive acclaim from all quarters.

A plan is being worked out to assist state governments in the implementation of the new policy. Efforts for the construction of new roads will continue, though emphasis will be placed on the proficient maintenance of existing networks of roads.

Fellow Nigerians, 1983 is politically important in the annals of our history [words indistinct] of our present Constitution and [word indistinct] democracy will again be put to the test. I implore all political parties to conduct their affairs without rancor and with probity, enjoining their followers to be law-abiding, restrained in speech, and accommodating in thought and action. The election should be fought in the spirit of give and take and maganimity in victory. This should also apply to the referenda for state creation or boundary adjustment. The law enforcement agencies will, however, be fully prepared to ensure an orderly and hitch-free electioneering campaign and elections. Any breach of the peace and public order will be effectively dealt with. It will, therefore, be in the interest of all to cooperate with the law and order obediently.

I am happy and proud with the performance of our Armed Forces and the law enforcement agencies, who despite numerous (?imponderables), have carried out their onerous duties in maintaining law and order, with dedication and patriotism. I have every confidence that they will continue to serve the national loyally and diligently so as to ensure the survival of democracy and human rights. I am not unaware of the problems we may face concerning their welfare. The Federal Government has already taken measures to alleviate many of their difficulties.

In the conduct of foreign affairs, Africa has remained and will continue to be the cornerstone of our foreign policy. In the case of utter contempt for world opinion displayed by the State of Israel with the invasion of Lebanon, my administration ordered the withdrawal of our soldiers serving with the UN peacekeeping force in the area. This same flagrant disregard of world opinion and the subversion of the sovereignty of frontline states in southern Africa is being perpetuated by the racist regime of Pretoria with the tacit approval of some big-power nations. The resolve of my administration is to continue to aid the liberation struggle in this region and to condemn the aggression of South Africa in all world forums. We also reaffirm our faith in the objectives and aims of the OAU and we will continue to try to ensure the viability and efficacy of the organization. We shall leave no stone unturned in doing whatever may be necessary to overcome the problems that now bedevil the OAU.

Finally, fellow Nigerians, the movement of our federal capital to Abuja has now begun, and it is hoped that by the end of 1983, some key ministries and parastatals might have moved permanently to Abuja in addition to those who have already blazed the trial.

I send all of you my sincere and warm wishes for the new year. I hope that we have learned from the events of the past year. Issues of religious fanaticism should not be allowed by religious and community leaders to rear up their ugly heads again. We should actively try to eschew all forms of bitterness, bigotry, and intolerance and learn to be our brother's keeper. Let unity continue to be our matchword in this new year. I wish you all a happy, peaceful, and prosperous new year. May God bless you all.

## ANGOLA

### MPLA, UNITA REPORTEDLY TO HOLD TALKS IN FEBRUARY

LD052330 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 2300 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] Negotiations will take place in February between the MPLA and UNITA. This was disclosed by the news agency Noticias De Portugal, quoting a spokesman for Jonas Savimbi's movement in statements to the Associated Press. This radio station has so far been unable to get in touch with UNITA's spokesman in Lisbon, Fernando Wilson.

According to the same source, the guerrilla's successes have reached such proportions that the Luanda government is anxious to put a quick end to 6 years of war in the country.

Angolan sources in Lisbon, however, have said the negotiations are not very likely to be held as soon as February.

### UNITA STEPS UP RAIDS, PROPOSES DIRECT TALKS

AB060732 Paris AFP in English 0426 GMT 6 Jan 83

[Text] Luanda, Jan 6 (AFP) -- The Angolan rebel movement UNITA stepped up its raids last month with strikes deep into the center of the country, the government newspaper reported here Wednesday, quoting sources at the State Security Ministry.

It said "terrorist bands armed and supported by South Africa" had killed 35 people in the central Province of Bie in an attack 100 km to the east of the provincial capital Huambo. In another raid, 50 villagers had been kidnapped 150 km northeast of Huambo, the paper said.

In Lisbon, UNITA issued a communique yesterday proposing direct talks with the government here with a view to setting up a government of national union. It said the movement's Central Committee proposed the talks at a meeting it held in the last week of December at Mavinga in Angola's Cuando Cubango Province.

The communique confirmed the government paper's report of increased guerrilla activity, saying operations had spread north and east to the Provinces of Malanje, Cuanza Norte, Uige and Lunda. It said UNITA was managing to achieve better corrdination between its military missions and its political and administrative work in regions it controlled.

### MPLA MEMBERS REPORTEDLY ARRESTED, SUSPENDED

MB060917 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 6 Jan 83 p 1

[By Jose Caetano]

[Excerpt] Luanda -- Angola's ruling MPLA party has been thrown into a potentially damaging crisis with the suspension of 32 senior members and the arrest of at least one other.

The actions are the result of long-simmering tensions between moderate and radical factions inside the party finally erupting into open confrontation.

Among those suspended is Mrs Ruth Lara, wife of Mr Lucio Lara, who as secretary for ideological education and party organization of the MPLA's Central Committee, is the party's number two figure.

Sources in Lisbon say the developments may have a strong influence on Angola's attitude towards future talks with South Africa and may even result in some sort of accomodation between the MPLA and the rebel UNITA organisation led by Dr Jonas Savimbi.

The latest purge seems to indicate that the MPLA's moderate faction, also known as the "Catetes", has gained the upper hand in its power struggle with party radicals, or "ideological purists" as they often describe themselves.

The supensions follow the recent arrest of Mr Fernando Costa Andrade, another senior party member and known radical.

Mr Andrade, a white ex-guerrilla commander, was detained on instructions from the MPLA's Central Committee following the staging in Luanda of a play he wrote praising the late President Neto. The play was considered to contain "disrespectful" references to President Jose dos Santos.

The apparent leader of the "Catete" faction is Health Minister Mr Mendes de Carvalho.

Another known member of the group is the minister of the interior, Lieutenant-Colonel Alexandre Rodrigues, who led the Angolan delegation on Ilha do Sal.

NEW DESIGNATION FOR MPLA-LABOR DEPARTMENT

MB051115 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] The Department of Political and Party Works for Defense and Security Organs and War Veterans is to be called the Political Department for Defense and Security of the MPLA-Labor Party's Central Committee. The new designation was approved during the 11th ordinary session of the MPLA-Labor Party's Central Committee, which was held from 30 November to 8 December 1982. Colonel Juliao Mateus Paulo, minister of state security, is the secretary of that department of the MPLA-Labor Party's Central Committee.

## MOZAMBIQUE

MOZAMBIQUE, ZIMBABWEAN MILITARY LEADERS MEET

MB051149 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] Top military officials from Mozambique and Zimbabwe yesterday held talks in the Mozambican port city of Beira. The discussions were between Mozambique's Armed Forces chief of staff, Lieutenant General Sebastio Maputo, and the commander of the Zimbabwean Armed Forces, Lieutenant General Rex Nhongo.

The Maputo daily, NOTICIAS, today reported that the agenda at the meeting centered on defense and security questions in the region. The Mozambican minister resident in Sofala Province, Lieutenant General Gjebuza also took part in the meeting.

Speaking at Beira airport, shortly before leaving for Harare, Gen Nhongo said that it was necessary for the two countries to exchange experiences and improve cooperation.

Asked to comment on recent proposals by the Pretoria regime for a so-called nonaggression pact between the independent southern African states, Gen Nhongo said it seems strange that the aggressor should want such a pact. For us, Gen Nhongo added, South Africa is the enemy of the countries in the region. Gen Nhongo was also carrying a message for President Samora Machel from the Zimbabwean leader, Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.

### Zimbabwe Army Chief Leaves

EA0511154 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 4 Jan 83

[Text] Lieutenant General Rex Nhongo, chief of the General Staff of the Zimbabwe Army, left Beira today after regular consultations with Mozambique authorities on military and security matters. In the provincial capital of Sofala, the senior Zimbabwe National Army officer met with Lieutenant General Sebastiao Mabote, vice minister of defense and chief of General Staff of the Mozambique Armed Forces.

In a statement to the news media in Beira just before his departure, Rex Nhongo said that the existing military and security cooperation between the two countries continues to increase. Asked to comment on recent proposals by South Africa concerning a nonaggression pact between southern African countries, news of which was being put out by international news agencies, Rex Nhongo said that his government does not have any official information about it. However, he did say that it would be very surprising if the aggressor made such a proposal.

It should be recalled that when in Sofala, Lt Gen Rex Nhongo brought a message from Prime Minister Robert Mugabe to President Samora Machel which was handed over in Beira city to Lieutenant General Armando Guebuza, the minister resident in Sofala.

## ZAMBIA

### PRC'S ZHAO ZIYANG ARRIVES IN LUSAKA 5 JAN

AB0513145 Paris AFP in English 1248 GMT 5 Jan 83

[Text] Lusaka, Jan 5 (AFP) -- Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang arrived here today from Brazzaville at the start of a four-day visit to Zambia, the first by a Chinese leader.

Mr Zhao, who is heading a 55-man delegation, was met by President Kenneth Kaunda. The two leaders were expected to meet informally today with official talks scheduled to start tomorrow.

The Chinese premier will have discussions with leaders of the anti-apartheid African National Congress and the South West African People's Organization (SWAPO) of Namibia.

He will also tour the Chinese-built Mulungshi textiles in Kabwe, north of here and visit the Victoria Falls in Livingstone before leaving for Zimbabwe on the next leg of his 10-nation African tour.